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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

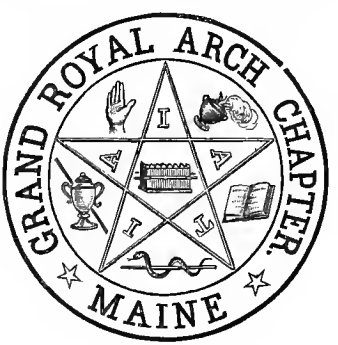
OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION IN FEBRUARY, 1821,
TO MAY 4, 1854, INCLUSIVE.

VOL. I.

REPRINTED FROM THE RECORDS.



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Grand Chapter of Maine.

1821.

Agreeably to previous arrangement, a full delegation from the respective Chapters in the State of Maine convened at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the evening of February 7, 1821, at six o'clock, as follows:

M. E. Charles Fox, *High Priest*, E. Arthur Shirley, *King*, " Charles B. Smith, *Scribe*,	Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland.
M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, *High Priest*, E. William P. Davis, *King*, " Zabdiel Hyde, *Scribe*,	Montgomery Chapter, Bath.
M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, *High Priest*, E. Abiel Wood, *King*, Comp. Stephen Parsons, Proxy of E. David Otis, *Scribe*,	New Jerusalem Chapter, Wiscasset.
E. James Loring Child, *King*, " Gideon W. Olney, Proxy of M. E. Lawrence Sprague, *H. P.*, Comp. Samuel K. Gilman, Proxy of E. Ariel Mann, *Scribe*,	Jerusalem Chapter, Hallowell.

The meeting was called to order by M. E. Charles Fox, High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter, when M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter, was unanimously appointed Chairman, and E. James Loring Child, Secretary.

Official certificates from the several Chapters were read, showing the unanimous opinion of their members that it is expedient to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Maine, empowering the M. E. High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter to take the necessary previous means for organizing the same. The copies

of communications made in pursuance of their authority to the M. E. Henry Fowle, Deputy Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States—also to the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, by which these several Chapters had been instituted, were then read—and also the official answer of the Deputy Grand High Priest, giving his sanction to this Convention, and his full approbation of its proceeding to the organization of a State Grand Chapter, according to the Constitution and Regulations of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

M. E. Comp's Fox and Dunlap were appointed a committee to examine the credentials presented by the aforenamed delegates, who reported that they found them satisfactory, and that the several Companions presenting them were entitled to seats in this Convention.

The Divine blessing was then devoutly invoked by the M. E. Gideon W. Olney, Past High Priest of Jerusalem Chapter; and the Chairman announced that the Convention was constitutionally assembled and prepared to proceed to business by acting upon any Resolutions which might be laid before them; whereupon E. Comp. Child submitted the following, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is expedient for this Convention to proceed immediately to the establishment and organization of a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the State of Maine.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Maine adopt provisionally the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, so far as the same is applicable to their circumstances and condition, and is not inconsistent with the provisions of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Convention now proceed by ballot to the election of officers for this Grand Chapter, and that E. Comp's Wood and Davis be a committee to collect, count and declare the votes.

On doing which it appeared the following persons were constitutionally elected to the offices set against their respective names, viz:

M. E.	CHARLES FOX, of Portland,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, of Brunswick,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	NATHANIEL COFFIN, of Wiscasset,	*Grand King.*
"	LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, of Hallowell,	" *Scribe.*
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	JAMES LORING CHILD, of Augusta,	" *Secretary.*
"	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	" *Chaplain.*
"	WILLIAM P. DAVIS, of Lisbon,	" *Marshal.*

The Chairman then addressed the Grand High Priest elect, announcing to him his appointment: to which an appropriate reply was made, and the acceptance of the office signified. It was then voted to proceed immediately to the installation: whereupon the M. E. James D. Hopkins, P. G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, being the senior Grand Officer present, was requested to preside; who accordingly took the chair, and the M. E. Charles Fox, having made the declarations prescribed by the Regulations provisionally adopted, was installed as Grand High Priest in ancient form, and proclamation thereof was duly made.

Voted, To postpone the installation of the remaining officers elect until Friday evening next.

Resolved, That M. E. Comp's Dunlap, Coffin and Olney, be a committee to draft a Constitution for the government of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Voted, To adjourn until Friday evening next, at 6 o'clock, then to meet at this place.

Attest,

JAMES LORING CHILD, *Grand Secretary.*

Masons' Hall, Portland, Feb. 9, 1821.

Met according to adjournment. Grand Chapter opened in due form.

Minutes of the preeeding meeting read by the Grand Secretary.

Voted, That the Grand Chapter now proceed to the installation of the several officers elect, not installed at the last meeting.

Whereupon the following were inducted into the respective offices affixed to their names, by M. E. CHARLES FOX, Grand High Priest, according to the requirements of the Constitution provisionally adopted for the regulation of this Grand Chapter and ancient masonic usage, viz:

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	*Grand King.*
" LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, by Comp. SAM'L K. GILMAN, his proxy,	" *Scribe.*
E. JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
" JAMES LORING CHILD,	" *Secretary.*
" WILLIAM P. DAVIS,	" *Marshal.*

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of preparing a code of regulations for the government of this Grand Chapter, report that they have deemed it inexpedient to proceed in the execution of the duties assigned them until they shall have had an opportunity of examining the Constitutions of the several State Grand Chapters in the United States. Which report was accepted; whereupon it is voted that said committee procure, as soon as may be, a copy of the Constitution of each State Grand Chapter in the United States, and any other information that may be requisite to enable them to complete the business assigned them.

Resolved, That M. E. Comp's FOX, DUNLAP and COFFIN be a committee to make a respectful communication to the M. E. General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of the organization of this Grand Chapter under its jurisdiction, and according to its Constitution, with a request to be recognized as such, and receive its communications.

Resolved, That M. E. Comp's FOX, DUNLAP and COFFIN be a committee to make a respectful and affectionate communication to the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, by whose authority the several Chapters in this State have been constituted, and under whose auspices they have so happily flourished, acquainting them with our organization as a State Grand Chapter, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of

the United States, tendering them our grateful acknowledgments for the parental care with which they have watched over the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in Maine, and for the light and intelligence they have diffused among us and our Companions; at the same time assuring them of our best wishes for their prosperity, and of our cordial co-operation in every effort to diffuse the blessings of the Royal art.

Resolved, That E. Comp's CHILD, SHIRLEY and GERRISH be a committee to prepare a suitable device for the seal of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the several Chapters in the State be directed to forward to the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary returns of their officers and members, as they shall appear upon their records, on the first day of May next.

Voted, That E. Comp's SHIRLEY, GERRISH, DAVIS and CHILD, be a committee to provide suitable Regalia, Books of Record, and Stationery, for the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the several Chapters in the State be directed to furnish the Grand Chapter with a certified copy of their by-laws, and a copy of the device of their Seals, at or before the next communication.

Resolved, That M. E. Comp's FOX, DUNLAP, COFFIN and SPRAGUE, be a committee to consider the subject of the jurisdiction of the several Chapters, and of defining the limits which it may be proper to assign them.

Resolved, That E. Comp. CHILD be a committee to prepare a form of Diploma for this Grand Chapter, and report the same at the next communication.

Resolved, That the several Chapters within the State take rank and precedence according as they have rank and precedence in the parent Grand Chapter, and that the Grand High Priest be requested to procure official information upon this subject, and direct the Grand Marshal to assign seats to their respective officers accordingly.

Resolved, That E. Comp. CHILD be a committee to address the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire on the subject of fees for conferring the degrees in the gift of Royal Arch Chapters, to the end that a uniformity in that respect may be effected.

A communication from the Grand Secretary of the State Grand Chapter of Connecticut, inviting a correspondence on the subject of the date of Royal Arch Masonry, was read and ordered to be placed on the files.

Resolved, That M. E. Comp's FOX, COFFIN and SPRAGUE, be a committee to take into consideration the foregoing communication, and hold such cor-

respondence concerning the same as may appear most likely to conduce to a uniformity of opinion thereon.

Resolved, That the next communication be at Hallowell, on the second Tuesday of June next, at the hall of the Chapter in that place, at 6 o'clock P. M., and that when the Grand Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to that time and place.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause the proceedings of the Grand Chapter to be printed as soon as may be, and every member be furnished with a copy; and also, that he transmit to each Chapter in this State, and to every State Grand Chapter in the Union, one or more of these copies, as may be suitable.

Adjourned.

Attest,

J. LORING CHILD, *Grand Secretary.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At a Special Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, held at Masonic Hall, in Hallowell, on Tuesday, the 12th day of June, A. L. 5821:

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Deputy G. H. Priest.
"	NATHANIEL COFFIN, ...	Grand King.
"	LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, ...	" Scribe.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" Secretary.
E.	GIDEON FARRELL, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
"	WARREN PRESTON, ...	" Treasurer "
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ...	" Tyler "

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Montgomery Chapter, Bath. Jerusalem Chapter, Hallowell.
New Jerusalem Chapter, Wiscasset.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form, and the records of the last meeting were read.

The committee appointed to draft a code of Regulations for the government of this Grand Chapter, report that they have not been able to attend to the duties assigned them, and that they will submit a *projet* of a Constitution at the next regular communication. Read and accepted.

The committee appointed at the last communication for the purpose, report the device of a seal for this Grand Chapter. Read, and device approved; whereupon, on motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary procure an engraving of the same.

Certified copies of the by-laws of Mount Vernon, Montgomery and Jerusalem Chapters were received, and also devices of their respective seals, and were ordered to be preserved on file.

Returns of officers and members of the several Chapters within this State were received and placed on file.

The committee appointed to provide suitable Regalia, Books of Record and Stationery, report, that they have partially executed the business of their appointment. Report accepted, and their duties are continued.

The committee appointed to consider the subject of the jurisdiction of the several Chapters, and of defining the limits which it may be proper to assign them, report, that they have not found it convenient to attend to the duties assigned them, and asked and obtained leave to sit again.

The Grand Secretary reported a device of a Diploma for this Grand Chapter, which was unanimously approved: whereupon,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary procure an engraving of the same, and cause a suitable number of copies to be struck off on parchment and distributed among the Chapters.

A communication from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, in answer to a letter from the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, proposing an arrangement upon the subject of fees, &c., to the end that a uniformity may be effected, is received, declining such an arrangement; which is ordered to be placed on the files.

Communications from Mount Vernon, Montgomery and Jerusalem Chapters were received, tendering the use of their regalia &c. to this Grand Chapter.

A communication was received from E. and Rev. JONATHAN GREENLEAF, accepting his appointment as Grand Chaplain.

Communication from M.E. and Hon. DEWITT CLINTON, congratulating this Grand Chapter on its organization, &c., and tendering his best wishes for its prosperity, was read by the Grand Secretary and placed on file.

A communication from M. E. JOHN ABBOTT, General Grand Secretary, was read and ordered to be placed on the files.

Minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky at their meeting of a recent date, was received and placed on the files.

On motion of the Grand Secretary,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to borrow, on the faith of this Grand Chapter, such sum of money, not exceeding two hundred dollars, as may be necessary to meet the contingent and other expenses the ensuing year.

Resolved, That the next choice of officers shall take place on the second Wednesday of January next, at 5 o'clock P. M., and that when the Chapter adjourns it will adjourn to meet in Portland at that time.

Resolved, That the several Chapters within this State on the first day of July next, be required to forward to the Grand Treasurer the amount of their dues respectively, which have accrued since September last, with duplicate accounts of the same; and that on the first day of January they forward the amount of dues up to that period, with duplicate accounts thereof.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form, to meet at the Hall in Portland on the second Wednesday of January next, at 5 o'clock afternoon.

Attest,

JAMES L. CHILD, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1822.

At a regular communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, held at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the ninth day of January, A. D. 1822:

PRESENT.

M. E.	CHARLES FOX, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" King *pro tem.*
"	ZABDIEL HYDE, ...	" Scribe "
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
M. E.	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" Secretary.
E. & Rev.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, . .	" Chaplain.
E.	STEPHEN PARSONS, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*

REPRESENTATIVES.

Mount Vernon Chapter.

M. E. Charles B. Smith, High Priest.

Comp. Nelson Racklyft, proxy of Joseph Harrod, Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter.

M. E. Zabdiel Hyde, High Priest.

Comp. Abner Bourne, proxy of Jonathan Page, King.

New Jerusalem Chapter.

Comp. Stephen Parsons, proxy of Nathaniel Coffin, H. Priest.

" Seth Clark, proxy of Thomas McCray, Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter.

Comp. Amos Nourse, proxy of Ariel Mann, High Priest.

" Peleg Sprague, proxy of Eben T. Warren, King.

VISITORS.

Comp. Jesse Robinson, Comp. James McLellan.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form at six o'clock, and the Throne of Grace addressed by E. and Rev. Comp. JONATHAN GREENLEAF, Grand Chaplain.

A committee consisting of M.E. Comp's SMITH, HYDE and CHILD were appointed to examine the credentials presented by the aforenamed Companions who appeared as proxies to officers of this Grand Chapter, and, having attended to the duty assigned them, reported that the said Companions are duly qualified to sit and act in this Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded by ballot to the choice of officers, and on counting the ballots, it appeared that the following Companions were chosen, viz:

M.E. CHARLES FOX, of Portland,	*Grand High Priest.*
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP, of Brunswick,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
" LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, of Hallowell,	*Grand King.*
E. ERASTUS FOOTE, of Wiscasset,	" *Scribe.*
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH, of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
M.E. JAMES L. CHILD, of Augusta,	" *Secretary.*
E. and Rev. JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	" *Chaplain.*
" GIDEON W. OLNEY, of Gardiner,	" "
M.E. WM. P. DAVIS, of Lisbon,	" *Marshal.*

Voted, To adjourn to meet at this place on Friday evening next at 6 o'clock.

Attest,

JAMES L. CHILD, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 11, 1822.

Met according to adjournment.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

A copy of the communication to the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, on the subject of the "*true era*" of Royal Arch Masonry, prepared by the committee appointed for that purpose, was read and placed on the files, as follows:

PORTLAND, November 30, 1821.

Excellent Companions:

Your communication, addressed to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, was received, and the undersigned were appointed a committee to take the same into consideration and hold such correspondence thereon as might conduce to a uniformity on the subject of the era of Royal Arch Masonry, which they regret does not at present exist among the several Grand Chapters, many of whom, and they among the number, having adopted a date different from that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, who, as they perceive, have fixed it at the year 530 B. C.

We now, in conformity, with our instructions, shall proceed to communicate to you the reasons for our having adopted the year 535 B. C. as the period from which to commence the date of Royal Arch Masonry.

In the year 606 B. C., in the fourth year of the reign of Jehoiakim, in the Jewish 9th month, called Chisleu, which answers to our November, on the 18th of this month Nebuchadnezzar made himself master of the city of Jerusalem and carried away many of its inhabitants and a great part of the vessels of the house of the Lord, their King thus becoming tributary and the land in vassalage. We from this period reckon the beginning of the 70 years of the Babylonish captivity, and in commemoration of which event the Jews, even to this day, keep as an annual fast, the 18th day of November. We are aware that some date the captivity some years later (but we think not correctly) even from the [year] 518 B. C., in the 4th year of Darius, because, as they say, his decree was brought to Jerusalem at this time, which was just 70 years after the destruction of the Temple in the year 588 B. C. Admitting our date to be correct, then their captivity expired on the 18th day of November, 536 B. C., when we know that Cyrus, King of Persia, issued his famous proclamation for their liberation, as was foretold by the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, the former of whom mentions him by name. At this time Joshua and Zerubbabel brought up to Jerusalem 49,697 of the captive Jews, including their servants. Now, allowing them the same time to perform this journey that it took Ezra in the year 458 B. C., which was four months, (see Ezra, 7th Chapter), and it brings us to March; and then also allow them one month more to collect the people and prepare it, carries us to April, 535 B. C., or Nisan, the Jewish first month, for their arrival, which is the time we first hear of them after their return. Among the first things they undertook when they returned, was to restore the altar of the Lord (see Ezra, 3d Chapter), at which time, as some celebrated writers say, a tabernacle was erected around it, until the second Temple was completed. On the first day of the seventh month Tizri, our September, 535 B. C., the Jews assembled at Jerusalem to celebrate the various feasts which fell in this month, and at this time we conclude the first Grand Council were assembled, and therefore from this period we date the era of Royal Arch Masonry. We do not know whether this date agrees with the views of the Grand Chapter of Connecti-

cut; if it does not, we will thank you to communicate to us your reasons for fixing on a different period. We are pleased to find the subject now brought forward, that we may give to each other our ideas and opinions, which we hope may result in a perfect uniformity on a subject which we think should come before the General Grand Chapter at their next communication.

The Grand Chapter of Maine being recently organized, they have not yet formed rules and regulations for their government and that of the subordinate Chapters under their jurisdiction. You will confer a favor if you can conveniently forward to us the regulations of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, as we wish to make ours as perfect as possible.

We are, with respect and fraternal esteem,

Yours, &c.,

(Signed,) CHARLES FOX,
NATHANIEL COFFIN,
LAWRENCE SPRAGUE,
Committee of the Grand Chapter of Maine.

WM. H. JONES and E. GOODRICH, ESQS.,
Committee of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

The committee appointed to prepare a code of by-laws asked and obtained leave to sit again.

A committee, consisting of M. E. Comp's CHARLES FOX, CHARLES B. SMITH, and E. Comp. JOHN P. BOYD, was appointed, to have a general supervising power over the prudential concerns of the Grand Chapter, to settle the account of the Grand Treasurer, and all other accounts against the Grand Chapter, and to call on the several Chapters for a settlement of all their dues.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to borrow on the faith of this Grand Chapter, such sum, not exceeding two hundred dollars, as may be necessary to meet the current expenses the present year.

M. E. Comp's DUNLAP, COFFIN and CHILD were appointed a committee to address the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts upon the subject of the funds belonging to them at the time of the formation of this Grand Chapter, and request them to assign to this Grand Chapter its just proportion thereof.

M. E. Comp's FOX, DUNLAP and CHILD were appointed a committee to petition the Legislature for an act of incorporation.

The Grand Officers elect were duly installed into the offices to which they were respectively elected.

The following appointments were announced by the M. E. Grand High Priest, viz:

NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	*Grand Steward.*
DWELLY TURNER, of Bath,	"
JOHN H. SHEPPARD, of Wiscasset,	"
HENRY W. FULLER, of Augusta,	"
WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	*Grand Tyler.*

And the officers duly installed, either by themselves or proxy.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary cause to be published and distributed to the several Grand Chapters in the United States, and the Chapters in this State, an abstract of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter since the last publication.

Ordered, That the next meeting of this Grand Chapter be at Masons' Hall, in Bath, on the second Wednesday of June next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

Adjourned.

Attest,

JAMES L. CHILD, *Grand Secretary.*

Agreeably to adjournment, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine assembled at Masons' Hall, in Bath, on Wednesday, the twelfth day of June, Anno Domini 1822 (A. L. 5822).

PRESENT.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Esq., . . .	Dep. Grand High Priest.
" LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, M. D., . .	Grand King.
E. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Esq., . . .	" Treasurer.
M. E. WILLIAM P. DAVIS, Esq., . . .	" Marshal.
Comp. DWELLY TURNER, Esq., . . .	" Steward.
" JOHN H. SHEPPARD, Esq., . .	" "

M. E. Comp. Nath'l Coffin, Esq., P. G. King and H. P. of New Jerusalem Chapter.

M. E. Comp. Zabdiel Hyde, High Priest of Montgomery Chapter.

E. Comp. Jonathan Page, M. D., King of " "

Comp. John W. Mellen, proxy of M. E. Charles B. Smith, High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter.

Comp. ABNER BOURNE, proxy of E. JOHN P. BOYD, King of Mount Vernon Chapter.

Comp. SETH BARTLETT, proxy of E. Comp. THOS. MCCRATE, King of New Jerusalem Chapter.

Comp. EZEKIEL CUTTER, proxy of E. Comp. THOS MCCRAY, Scribe of New Jerusalem Chapter.

Comp. AMOS NOURSE, proxy of M. E. Comp. ARIEL MANN, M. D., High Priest of Jerusalem Chapter.

Comp. SAMUEL K. GILMAN, proxy of E. Comp. E. F. WARREN, ESQ., King of Jerusalem Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was organized and opened as follows, viz:

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ESQ., . . .	Dep. Grand High Priest.	
"	LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, . . .	Grand King.	
"	NATHANIEL COFFIN, ...	" Scribe *pro tem.*	
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.	
"	SETH BARTLETT, ...	" Secretary *pro tem.*	
Rev.	SILAS STEARNS, ...	" Chaplain	"
M. E.	WILLIAM P. DAVIS, ...	" Marshal.	
Comp.	DWELLY TURNER, ...	" Steward.	
"	JOHN H. SHEPPARD, ...	" "	
"	AMOS NOURSE, ...	" "	
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ...	" "	*pro tem.*
"	ABRAHAM KIMBALL, ...	" Tyler	"

A communication from New Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, tendering the use of their Hall, Regalia, &c., to this Grand Chapter, was received and ordered to be placed on file.

A copy of the by-laws of New Jerusalem Chapter was received with the device of its seal.

The committee appointed at a former meeting to define the jurisdiction of the several Chapters within this State, reported progress, and requested further time, which was granted.

The committee appointed at a former meeting to prepare a code of by-laws, reported progress, and had further time granted them.

Comp's SHEPPARD, MELLEN and GILMAN were appointed a committee to report what regulations are necessary in relation to applications for relief.

The subject of a uniform mode of work among the Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, was referred to a committee consisting of M. E. Comp's DUNLAP, SPRAGUE and COFFIN, and Comp. MELLEN.

A motion was submitted by M. E. Comp. COFFIN—

"That a society be formed under the patronage of this Grand Chapter, to be styled the Palestine Masonic Missionary Society, whose object shall be to procure all such information from the East as may throw light upon our ancient usages and customs, and at the same time to assist in diffusing the light of the Holy Scriptures among the Pilgrims who resort yearly to Jerusalem,"

and referred to M. E. Comp's DUNLAP and COFFIN, and Comp. SHEPPARD.

Adjourned to meet at this place at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

M. E. Comp. COFFIN was excused from further service upon the committee appointed at the last meeting, to address the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts upon the subject of assigning to this Grand Chapter a just proportion of the funds belonging to them at the time of separation, and E. Comp. GERRISH was appointed in his stead.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer refund to the several Chapters whatever dues they may have paid him, arising previously to the organization of this Grand Chapter.

Ordered, That the next meeting of this Grand Chapter be at Portland, on the ninth day of January next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter was closed in due and ancient form.

Attest,

SETH BARTLETT, *Grand Secretary pro tem.*

The foregoing is a copy of the minutes taken by Mr. BARTLETT.

JAMES L. CHILD, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1823.

At a regular meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, held at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the ninth day of January, A. D. 1823:

PRESENT.

M. E.	CHARLES FOX,	Grand High Priest.
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" Treasurer.
Rev. & E.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	" Chaplain.
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" Steward.

Comp's HORACE SEAVER, ZINA HYDE, ABNER BOURNE, and OBED WILSON.

Without transacting any business, the Grand Chapter adjourned to meet at this place at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

AFTERNOON.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	CHARLES FOX,	Grand High Priest.
"	ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	Grand Treasurer.
M. E.	JAMES L. CHILD,	" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	" Chaplain.
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" Steward.
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS,	" Tyler.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon Chapter.

By E. JOHN P. BOYD, King.
E. HORACE SEAVER, Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter.

By E. ZINA HYDE, proxy to M.E. NATH'L CROSS, High Priest.
E. BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT, proxy to E. DWELLY TURNER, King
E. ABNER BOURNE, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter.

By E. STEPHEN PARSONS, proxy to M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, H. P.
E. OBED WILSON, proxy to E. WILLIAM M. BOYD, Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter.

By E. AMOS NOURSE, proxy to M. E. ARIEL MANN, High Priest.
E. JESSE ROBINSON, Scribe.

The Grand Chapter was organized and opened as follows:

M. E.	CHARLES FOX, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JESSE ROBINSON, ...	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	STEPHEN PARSONS, ...	" Scribe *pro tem.*
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, . .	" Chaplain.
E.	ABNER BOURNE, ...	" Marshal.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Steward.
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Tyler.

Return of New Jerusalem Chapter was received and placed on file.

The Committee on Accounts made a report, which was read and accepted.

M. E. JAMES L. CHILD, from the committee to procure an engraving of the diploma, reported that the engraving had been procured, a copy of which he presented. The report was read and accepted.

The Committee on the By-Laws asked for further time to complete the business assigned them, which was granted.

The Committee to define the jurisdiction of the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter requested further time, which was granted.

On motion,

Ordered, That this Grand Chapter now proceed to the election of officers by ballot.

M. E. Charles Fox declined to be a candidate for the office of Grand High Priest.

On counting the ballots, it appeared that the following officers were chosen, viz:

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Esq., of Brunswick,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	WILLIAM SWAN, Esq., of Portland,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, of Hallowell,	*Grand King.*
"	JAMES L. CHILD, Esq., of Alna,	" *Scribe.*
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Esq., of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	JOHN P. BOYD, Esq., of Portland,	" *Secretary.*
Rev. & E.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	" *Chaplain.*
"	GIDEON W. OLNEY, of Gardiner,	" "
"	JOHN H. INGRAHAM, of Thomaston,	" "
"	OBED WILSON, of Bingham,	" "
E.	ABNER BOURNE, Esq., of Brunswick,	" *Marshal.*
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	" *Tyler.*

The Grand High Priest elect was then installed by M. E. Charles Fox, Past Grand High Priest, in due and ample form, after which the Grand High Priest installed in like due form M. E. William Swan, Deputy Grand High Priest, by E. Zina Hyde as his proxy, M. E. Lawrence Sprague, Grand King elect, by E. Amos Nouse as his proxy.

M. E.	JAMES L. CHILD,	*Grand Scribe.*
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	JOHN P. BOYD,	" *Secretary.*
Rev. & E.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	" *Chaplain.*
"	OBED WILSON,	" "
E.	ABNER BOURNE,	" *Marshal.*
"	WILLIAM STEVENS,	" *Tyler.*

The Grand High Priest then announced his appointments of—

E. NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	*Grand Steward.*
" DWELLY TURNER, of Bath,	"
" JOHN H. SHEPPARD, of Wiscasset,	"
" SAMUEL K. GILMAN, of Hallowell,	"

the first of whom was duly installed.

On motion of M. E. Grand Scribe,

Ordered, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it be to to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Ordered, That M. E. Comp's CHILD, GREENLEAF and PARSONS be a committee to report, at the adjournment, what further business it may be necessary for this Grand Chapter to act upon at said adjourned meeting.

Ordered, That M. E. WILLIAM SWAN, Deputy Grand High Priest, together with one Companion (who shall be a member of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter) from each of the Chapters within this State, to be designated by said Chapters, be a committee to decide upon a mode of work to be observed in all the Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter, which Committee shall meet for the purpose at Wiscasset.

Adjourned until to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Jan. 10, 1823.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
" JONATHAN GREENLEAF, ...	Grand King *pro tem.*
" JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" Scribe.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
" JOHN P. BOYD, ...	" Secretary.
Rev. & E. JOHN H. INGRAHAM, ...	" Chaplain.
E. NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*

The Committee appointed yesterday, reported as follows, viz:

The committee appointed to report upon the business necessary to be transacted at this meeting, submit the following orders for adoption:

1. *Ordered,* That the committee to prepare a system of by-laws be instructed to report at the next meeting of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and that the Grand Secretary transmit a copy of this order to each member of said committee.

2. *Ordered,* That the committee to define the jurisdiction of the several subordinate Chapters, be instructed to report at the next meeting of this Grand Chapter, and that the Grand Secretary transmit a copy of this order to each member thereof.

3. *Ordered,* That M. E. Comp's CHARLES FOX, WILLIAM SWAN and CHAS. B. SMITH be a committee of accounts, to audit accounts against this Grand Chapter, and also the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

4. *Ordered,* That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, it is expedient, at the next meeting of the Chapter, to organize under the act of incorporation; and that M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, WM. SWAN, and JAMES L. CHILD, be a committee to take all such measures as may be necessary previous to such organization.

5. *Ordered,* That the committee appointed at a former meeting to address the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, on the subject of assigning to this Grand Chapter a just proportion of their funds, be instructed to make their application at the next regular meeting of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, and report to this Grand Chapter as soon after as may be.

6. *Ordered,* That the Grand Secretary be instructed to cause to be printed abstracts of the proceedings of this meeting, and forward one copy to each officer of this Chapter, three copies to each of the subordinate Chapters, one copy to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and one copy to each of the State Grand Chapters.

The foregoing orders were read and unanimously adopted.

On motion,

Ordered, That when this Chapter adjourn, it be until the first Wednesday of July next, at Masons' Hall, in Wiscasset, at ten o'clock A. M.

Rev. Comp. JOHN H. INGRAHAM having declined the office of Grand Chaplain, Rev. Comp. SILAS STEARNS, of Bath, was elected in his stead.

On motion,

Voted, That M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ESQ., Grand High Priest, be requested to deliver a public address at the next meeting of this Grand Chapter.

Adjourned.

Attest,

JOHN P. BOYD, *Grand Secretary.*

ADJOURNED SESSION.

WISCASSET, July 2, 1823.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine met at Masons' Hall, in Wiscasset, on Wednesday, July 2, 1823, and organized as follows, viz:

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Grand	High Priest.
"	LAWRENCE SPRAGUE,	"	King.
"	JAMES L. CHILD,	"	Scribe.
"	BARNABAS HEDGE,	"	Chaplain *pro tem.*
"	WILLIAM M. BOYD,	"	Treasurer "
"	SAMUEL W. CLARK,	"	Secretary "
"	STEPHEN PARSONS,	"	P. S. "
"	ABIEL WOOD,	"	R. A. Capt. "
"	HORACE SEAVER,	"	Capt. of H. "
"	JOSEPH CHANDLER,	"	Marshal "
"	EZEKIEL CUTTER,	"	Steward "
"	JOHN B. MANGE,	"	" "
"	RICHARD M. BARKER,	"	Sentinel "

The following Chapters were represented:

Mount Vernon Chapter.

By HORACE SEAVER, of Portland, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter.

By NATH'L COFFIN, ESQ., of Wiscasset, High Priest.
SAMUEL W. CLARK, ESQ., of Alna, King.
WILLIAM M. BOYD, ESQ., of Wiscasset, Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter.

By JOSEPH CHANDLER, proxy of E. T. WARREN, ESQ., High Priest.

The act of incorporation was introduced and notice proved agreeably to its provision, and the Grand Chapter informed that the persons named therein had met and adjourned, it being inexpedient for the Grand Chapter to organize under it at the present meeting.

The office of Deputy Grand High Priest being vacant, the Grand Chapter proceeded to fill the same, when M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN was unanimously chosen, and having signified his acceptance of the office, was installed by the Grand High Priest.

The Companions of New Jerusalem Chapter having made provision for public services, and the members of Lincoln and Alna Lodges having joined with them to form an escort, the Grand Chapter proceeded to the place of worship, when prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. PACKARD, and Comp. HEDGE, the acting Grand Chaplain, select portions of Scripture and appropriate hymns read by Rev. SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Alna, and an address delivered by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

The Grand Chapter, with visiting Companions and Brothers, and invited guests, then partook of an excellent dinner provided for the occasion, and afterwards, at four o'clock P. M., met again at the Hall for business.

AFTERNOON.

Ordered, That the thanks of the Grand Chapter be presented to the M. E. Grand High Priest for his interesting address this day delivered at their request.

The committee appointed to address the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, concerning the assignment to this Grand Chapter of a portion of its funds, reported that they had presented their communication, but had not yet received an answer: whereupon,

Ordered, That the committee, consisting of M. E. Comp's DUNLAP, CHILD,

and GERRISH, be requested to prosecute the object of their appointment and report at the next meeting.

Ordered, That all former committees on the subject of the by-laws, on the jurisdiction of subordinate Chapters, on uniformity of work, and on settlement of accounts, be discharged.

Ordered, That M. E. Comp. Fox be appointed an auditor, to settle and adjust the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and also all others against the Grand Chapter.

Ordered, That the M. E. Grand High Priest, together with one Companion from each of the subordinate Chapters in this State, to be appointed by said Chapters, (being also a member of this Grand Chapter), be a committee to decide upon the mode of work and lecturing to be observed in all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, to meet at Portland on the evening preceding the next Grand Communication; that the Grand Secretary communicate this order to the several Chapters, and that they certify, as soon as may be, to the Grand High Priest, the member whom they shall appoint in pursuance thereof.

Ordered, That M. E. Comp's COFFIN, CHILD and SHEPPARD be a committee to prepare a code of by-laws to be adopted by this Grand Chapter at the next meeting, immediately after organization under the act of incorporation.

Ordered, That the next meeting of this Grand Chapter be held at Portland, at the hall of Mount Vernon Chapter, on the fourth Wednesday of January next, at ten o'clock A. M., and that the Companions named in the act of incorporation be requested to take such further measures as are necessary to organize the Grand Chapter according to law at that time.

Adjourned.

Attest,

SAMUEL W. CLARK, *G. Secretary pro tem.*

The foregoing is a copy of the record made by the Grand Secretary *pro tem.*

Attest,

JOHN P. BOYD, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1824.

At a meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, held pursuant to adjournment at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on Wednesday, January 28, 1824, at ten o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, ...	" Chaplain.
"	ABNER BOURNE, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
"	ZINA HYDE, ...	" Tyler.

Resolved, That E. Comp's GREENLEAF, GERRISH and HYDE be a committee to examine the foreign correspondence, and also to report what business it will be necessary to act upon at the present meeting.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter now adjourn to meet at six o'clock this evening.

Adjourned accordingly.

AFTERNOON.

Met according to adjournment.

The following Chapters were represented:

Mount Vernon Chapter.
By M. E. Horace Seaver.
E. Samuel Fessenden.

Montgomery Chapter.
By M. E. Abner Bourne.
E. Zina Hyde.

New Jerusalem Chapter.
By E. Stephen Parsons.
" Jonas Wheeler.
" Gorham Parks.

Jerusalem Chapter.
By E. Peleg Sprague.
" Gideon Farrell.

The Grand Chapter was then organized for this meeting as follows:

M. E.	RORERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES FOX, ...	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" Scribe.
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	JOHN P. BOYD, ...	" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, . . .	" Chaplain.
"	SILAS STEARNS, ...	" "
M. E.	ABNER BOURNE, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Steward.
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Tyler.

Several visitors were admitted on vote of the Chapter.

The Committee on the Foreign Correspondence appointed this morning made the following report, which was read and accepted:

Communications have been received from the Grand Chapters of the State of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Kentucky, for the year 1822, and from the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire and Vermont for the year 1823. These documents furnish evidence of the flourishing state of masonry in those sections of the land, but contain nothing of particular importance to this Grand Chapter, except one movement in the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts. At their session on the 10th of September, 1822, the report of a committee was read and accepted relating to the application of this Grand Chapter for some portion of their funds. That report is as follows:

"The committee to whom was referred the subject respecting the Chapter in Maine have attended to the duty assigned them and ask leave to report,

that according to the correspondence between Companions of several of those Chapters and Comp. FOWLE, it appears that Jerusalem Chapter, at Hallowell, has made regular returns and paid all their dues to this Grand Chapter up to the establishment of the Grand Chapter of Maine.

"Montgomery Chapter, at Bath, have inadvertently sent their returns and dues, amounting to $11.33, to the Grand Chapter of Maine.

"New Jerusalem Chapter, of Wiscasset, have made their returns and paid their dues to this Grand Chapter.

"Mount Vernon Chapter, at Portland, have made no returns and paid no dues since September, 1819.

"It appears also by the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maine, at a meeting held at Portland, January 11, 1822, that M. E. Comp's DUNLAP, COFFIN and CHILD were appointed a committee to address the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, requesting them to assign to the Grand Chapter of Maine a just portion of the funds belonging to them at the time of separation.

"In a letter from Comp. COFFIN to Comp. FOWLE, he informed him of his appointment for the above purpose, and is of the opinion that a portion of the funds should be assigned them.

"On this subject your committee would observe that, excepting the fees for their charter, the Chapters in Maine have contributed but a very small proportion to the fund, the amount of which was about $700, at the time, or a little before the separation occurred,—all, or very nearly the whole of which was expended in repairing the losses occasioned by the burning of the late hall, and paying our proportion of the expense of fitting up the present hall; besides, the Grand Chapter had voted to procure a plate for a new diploma, and it was adjudged it would be necessary to borrow money to accomplish that object. Taking all things into consideration, your committee are of opinion that the Grand Chapter of Maine are not entitled to any part of the present small funds of this Chapter.

"Your committee, however, recommend that this Grand Chapter do relinquish to the Grand Chapter of Maine all the money which at the time of separation was due to this Grand Chapter from Montgomery and Mount Vernon Chapters, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to write to the said Chapters, requesting them to pay said money to the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter of Maine.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"BOSTON, 10th Sept., 1822. HENRY FOWLE, *per order.*"

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was read and accepted:

The Committee of Finance of the Grand Chapter of Maine ask leave to report:

That they have settled the Grand Treasurer's accounts, and find them well vouched and correctly cast. They find the balance of his interest account is

$5.14, which is passed to his credit in his general account, the balance of which in his favor is $8.34½. They find that Jerusalem and New Jerusalem Chapters have not made any returns or paid any dues for the past year; this want of punctuality is more particularly to be regretted at this time, whilst the Grand Chapter are indebted and paying interest therefor.

(Signed,) CHARLES FOX,

July 28, 1824. *Committee of Finance.*

On motion,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter approve of the Act of Incorporation granted them by the Legislature of the State, and it appearing that the several Companions named within the act have taken the necessary steps to organize under the same, and that a majority of them are present, therefore be it further

Resolved, That they be now requested to proceed and complete that organization, and that as soon as the Grand Chapter shall be organized under said act of incorporation, it shall be the duty of the present Grand Secretary and Treasurer, and of all others having in their possession records, papers, or property belongiug to the Grand Chapter, to deliver and pay over the same to the Grand Secretary and Treasurer, or other officers who shall become authorized to receive them, under said act of incorporation.

Records

OF THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF MAINE AFTER ITS ORGANIZATION UNDER THE ACT OF INCORPORATION.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

An act to incorporate the officers and members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled,* That CHARLES FOX, ROBERT P. DUNLAP, LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, ERASTUS FOOTE, JOSEPH M. GERRISH, JAMES LORING CHILD, JONATHAN GREENLEAF, GIDEON W. OLNEY, WM. P. DAVIS, with their associates and successors, be, and they hereby are, incorporated into a body politic by the name of the Officers and Members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine; with power to sue and be sued; to have a common seal, and to change the same; to make any by-laws for the management of their affairs, not repugnant to the laws of the State, nor to ancient masonic usages; to take and hold, for charitable and benevolent uses, any real estate to the value of twenty thousand dollars, and any personal estate to the value of fifty thousand dollars; and give and grant, or bargain and sell the same; and

with all the privileges usually granted to other societies instituted for purposes of charity and beneficence.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the first meeting of said corporation shall be holden at such time and place, and be notified in such manner, as the majority of the persons herein may direct.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That the powers granted by this Act may be enlarged, restrained or appealed, at the pleasure of the Legislature.

[Approved January 19, 1822.]

NOTICE CALLING FOR FIRST MEETING UNDER SAID ACT.

A semi-annual meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine will be held at Masons' Hall, in Wiscasset, on Wednesday, the second day of July next, at ten o'clock A. M., of which the subordinate Chapters and all persons concerned will take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

By order of the M. E. Grand High Priest.

Portland, June 25, 1823. ——— ———, *Secretary.*

Pursuant to the foregoing notice, the following persons mentioned in the aforenamed act of corporation met at Masons' Hall, in Wiscasset, on the second day of July, 1823, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, viz:—M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, M. E. LAWRENCE SPRAGUE and M. E. JAMES L. CHILD.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP was elected Chairman, M. E. JAMES L. CHILD Secretary.

Voted, That this meeting stand adjourned until the fourth Wednesday of January next, at six o'clock P. M., then to meet at Masons' Hall, in the town of Portland, for the purpose of completing the organization of this Grand Chapter under the act of incorporation.

Attest,

JAMES L. CHILD, *Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Jan. 28, 1824, 6 P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Present—M. E. ROB'T P. DUNLAP, M. E. CHARLES FOX, M. E.

James L. Child, E. and Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, and E. Jos. M. Gerrish.

The convention was organized by appointing M. E. Robert P. Dunlap Chairman, M. E. James L. Child Secretary.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Maine, consisting of officers and members as recorded in this volume, at their meeting this day having signified their approval of the foregoing act of incorporation, and requested the convention to proceed according to the same—

Resolved unanimously, That the Companions who are officers and members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine be, and hereby are, legally associated with us, and authorized to vote in organizing the Grand Chapter of Maine under the act of incorporation.

Resolved, That this convention now proceed to said organization accordingly, by the choice of such officers as masonic usage requires, by ballot, and that E. Comp's Sprague, Gerrish and Seaver be a committee to receive, sort and count the votes.

The ballots having been cast, the following officers were declared to be duly elected, viz:

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Esq., of Brunswick,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	NATH'L COFFIN, Esq., of Wiscasset,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	JAMES L. CHILD, Esq., of Alna,	*Grand King.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, Esq., of Portland,	" *Scribe.*
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Esq., of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	AMOS NOURSE, Esq., of Hallowell,	" *Secretary.*

The Grand High Priest elect signified his acceptance of the office to which he was chosen, and immediately announced his appointment of the following officers:

E. & Rev.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	SILAS STEARNS, of Bath,	"	"
"	THOMAS SMITH, of Portland,	"	"
"	ASA MEAD, of Brunswick,	"	"
E.	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT, of New Gloucester,	"	*Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	DWELLY TURNER, of Bath,	"	"
"	STEPHEN PARSONS, of Edgecomb,	"	"
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, of Hallowell,	"	"
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	"	*Tyler.*

And the several officers, elected and appointed as aforesaid who were present, were severally installed in ample form, and the Grand Secretary, who was absent, was installed by proxy.

Attest,

JAMES L. CHILD, *Secretary.*

JOHN P. BOYD was then appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter recognizes as its own all the acts and proceedings of the late Grand Chapter of Maine, the records of which are now deposited with the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer elected at this meeting; that the charters granted to the several Chapters before enumerated, and which are now represented in this Grand Chapter, are hereby recognized as legal, and the Chapters are entitled to their rank and regular representation herein according to the date of their charters and ancient masonic usage. That the seal adopted heretofore as the seal of the Grand Chapter of Maine, and also the form of diploma agreed upon and now in use, be adopted as the seal and diploma of this Grand Chapter.

Voted, That this Grand Chapter adopt, as its general rules, the Constitution and Laws of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, provided and published for the government of State Grand Chapters, and for the regulation of their subordinate Chapters and Lodges; and that M. E. Comp's COFFIN, CHILD and SPRAGUE be a committee to prepare a code of by-laws according to the same, and consistent with the act of incorporation, for the particular regulation of this Grand Chapter.

Petitions of Comp. MANLY HARDY and others, praying for the establishment of a Chapter at Bucksport; also petition of Comp. WATERMAN MAXY and others, praying for the establishment of a Chapter at Belfast, were presented, read and referred to Comp's FOX, WHEELER and COFFIN.

Resolved, That this meeting stand adjourned until to-morrow evening at six o'clock, then to meet at this place.

Adjourned.

Attest,

THURSDAY EVENING, Jan. 29, 1824.

The Grand Chapter met at Masons' Hall, in Portland, at six o'clock P. M., by adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN,	. . . .	Grand High Priest *p. t.*
" JAMES L. CHILD,	. . . . .	" King.
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	. . . . .	" Scribe.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	. . . .	" Treasurer.
" CHARLES FOX,	. . . . .	" Secretary *p. t.*
" ABNER BOURNE,	. . . . .	" Marshal "
" JOHN LEACH,	. . . . .	" Tyler "

Also HORACE SEAVER, NELSON RACKLYFT, PELEG SPRAGUE, JOHN McDONALD, MOSES STONE, HENRY H. BOODY.

The proceedings of the last evening were read.

Resolved, That the committee on the subject of the by-laws be directed to report at the next communication.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary communicate the proceedings of this Grand Chapter to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and request them to furnish this Grand Chapter, as soon as may be, a suitable number of copies of the Constitution and By-Laws of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, together with copies of their other proceedings; and that the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish the committee who may have under their consideration the subject of by-laws for this Grand Chapter, with all communications he may now have or may hereafter receive which will aid them in perfecting their report.

The committee who had under consideration the petition of WATERMAN MAXY and others, and the petition of MANLY HARDY and others, for the formation of two new Chapters, reported that the prayer of the petitioners ought not at this time to be granted. Report accepted.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to publish, as soon as may be, the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, and that he furnish the members of this Grand Chapter and the subordinate Chapters with a suitable number of copies of the same; and also that he forward copies of the same to the General Grand Chapter and the several State Grand Chapters.

Rosolved, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to meet in Hallowell on the first Wednesday of July next, at ten o'clock A. M.

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter now adjourn.

And immediately the Grand Chapter was closed in due form.

Attest,

JOHN P. BOYD, *Grand Secretary pro tem.*

SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

WEDNESDAY, July 7, 1824, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter convened agreeably to adjournment at Masons' Hall, in Hallowell.

PRESENT.

M. E. LAWRENCE SPRAGUE, . . .	Grand High Priest	*pro tem.*
" JOHN H. SHEPPARD, . . .	Dep. G. H. Priest	"
" ARIEL MANN, ...	Grand King	"
" E. T. WARREN, ...	" Scribe	"
" JESSE ROBINSON, ...	" Marshal	"
" EBEN HILTON, ...	" Treasurer	"
" AMOS NOURSE, ...	" Secretary.	
" S. K. GILMAN, ...	" Steward.	
" BENJ. ADAMS, ...	" "	
" J. D. LORD, ...	' Tyler	*pro tem.*

New Jerusalem Chapter was represented by—
M. E. J. H. SHEPPARD, High Priest.
EBEN HILTON, King, by proxy.
E. T. WARREN, Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter was represented by—
M. E. GIDEON FARRELL, King.
AMOS NOURSE, Scribe.

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in waiting, not members of the Grand Chapter, be admitted as visitors.

Adjourned to meet again at this place at three o'clock P. M.

Attest,

A. NOURSE, *Grand Secretary.*

JULY 7, 1824, 3 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Chapter, agreeably to adjournment, assembled at Masons' Hall, in Hallowell.

Resolved, That the committee on the subject of the by-laws be allowed a further time to prepare their report, and that Comp's SHEPPARD and MANGE be added to that committee.

On motion of Comp. S. K. GILMAN,

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to meet at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the day of the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, at ten o'clock A. M.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest,

A. NOURSE, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1825.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 13, 1825.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Maine met according to adjournment at Masons' Hall, in Portland, at ten o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
Comp.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, . . .	" Treasurer.
"	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT, . . .	" Marshal.
"	ASA MEAD, ...	" Chaplain.
"	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, . .	" "
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, . . .	" Steward.
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, . .	" "

From Mount Vernon Chapter.

E. SAMUEL FESSENDEN, King.
" THOMAS DODGE, Scribe.

From Jerusalem Chapter.

Comp. JESSE ROBINSON, as proxy for E. GIDEON FARRELL, King.

The Grand Chapter came to order, and JONATHAN GREENLEAF was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

Voted, That a committee of three be raised, to examine the records of the Foreign Correspondence and report what business it is necessary to act upon at the present session of this Grand Chapter.

Comp's GREENLEAF, ROBINSON and MEAD were chosen.

Voted, To adjourn until two o'clock this afternoon.

JANUARY 13, 1825, two o'clock P. M.

Met according to adjournment, M. E. JAMES L. CHILD, Grand High Priest *pro tem.*

Voted, That the Grand Chapter adjourn to meet at this place to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, Jan. 14, 1825.

Met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" King.
"	CHARLES B SMITH, ...	" Scribe.
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, . . .	" Secretary *pro tem.*
"	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT, ...	" Marshal.
"	ASA MEAD, ...	" Chaplain.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Steward.
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ...	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Tyler.

From New Jerusalem Chapter, at Wiscasset.

Comp. JONAS WHEELER, as proxy for M. E. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, H. P.
" STEPHEN PARSONS, as proxy for E. JOHN B. MANGE, King of that Chapter.

Voted, To accept the report of the committee raised yesterday to report on unfinished business.

Voted, To accept the report of the Committee of Finance.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the choice of officers for the ensuing year, and the following persons were duly elected:

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, of Brunswick,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	NATHANIEL COFFIN, of Wiscasset,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	JAMES L. CHILD, of Alna,	*Grand King.*
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, of Portland,	" *Scribe.*
Comp.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	AMOS NOURSE, of Hallowell,	" *Secretary.*

The following appointments were then announced by the Grand High Priest:

Rev. Com.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	SILAS STEARNS, of Bath,	"	"
"	ASA MEAD, of Brunswick,	"	"
"	REUBEN NASON, of Gorham,	"	"
Comp.	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT, of New Gloucester,	"	*Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, of Hallowell,	"	"
"	STEPHEN PARSONS, of Edgecomb,	"	"
"	JONATHAN PAGE, of Brunswick,	"	"
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	"	*Tyler.*

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourn, it adjourn to meet in this place, on the fourth Wednesday of this month, at six o'clock P. M.

Voted, That the installation of officers, and the report of the Committee on the By-Laws, be postponed to that time.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary give notice of the adjournment in some of the public newspapers printed in Portland.

Voted, That this Grand Chapter now adjourn.

And it was adjourned accordingly.

Attest,

[JONATHAN GREENLEAF,] *G. Sec. pro tem.*

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 26, 1825, 6 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter convened agreeably to adjournment, at Masons' Hall in Portland.

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	NATHANIEL COFFIN, ...	Dep. Gr. High Priest.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	Grand King.
Comp.	HORACE SEAVER, ...	" Scribe *pro tem.*
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" Secretary *p. t.*
"	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT, . . .	" Marshal.
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Tyler.

Mount Vernon Chapter, at Portland, is represented by
M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, High Priest.

New Jerusalem Chapter, at Wiscasset, is represented by
Comp. JONAS WHEELER, proxy of M. E. J. H. SHEPPARD, H. Priest;
E. WILLIAM M. BOYD, Scribe; and
Comp. STEPHEN PARSONS, proxy of J. B. MANGE, King, of the same Chapter.

The several officers who were elected at the last meeting and were present, were then installed; and M. E. SAMUEL FESSENDEN and Comp. AMOS NOURSE were installed by proxy.

M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, from the committee appointed to prepare suitable Rules and Regulations for the government of the Grand Chapter, reported a *Code of By-Laws*, which were read, and the further consideration thereof postponed to the next semi-annual communication of the Grand Chapter.

On motion of Comp. WHEELER,

Voted, That the [Grand] Secretary cause to be printed a sufficient number of copies of the by-laws just reported, and furnish each of the officers and members of the Grand Chapter with a copy, and also forward to each subordinate Chapter thirty copies.

On motion,

Voted, That the committee who reported the Code of By-Laws be instructed to consider and report what further Regulations are necessary for the government of this Grand Chapter.

On motion of Comp. CHILD,

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourn, it adjourn to meet at Bath, on the fourth Wednesday of July next, at ten o'clock A. M.

An account of Comp. COFFIN, and an account of Comp. STEVENS, Grand Sentinel, were presented and allowed, and the Grand Treasurer was ordered to pay the same.

On motion of Comp. COFFIN,

Resolved unanimously, That the members of this Grand Chapter cherish the most exalted sense of the virtues and achievements of GEN. LAFAYETTE, our *nation's guest;* that we join most cordially in all the various expressions of regard for his person and family made to him in other sections of our

country,—and especially in the assurances of WELCOME which have been given him by other branches of the Masonic Family; that we anticipate with great satisfaction the visit to our State which the invitation of its Legislature and public report authorizes us to expect; and, in order to express to him personally and more fully our sense of the honor conferred upon our Institution by having his name enrolled among its members, and our best wishes for his happiness, as well as our sense of his great services in the cause of humanity,

Resolved, That a committee of nine Royal Arch Masons be appointed, to wait upon him in the name and behalf of this Grand Chapter, and present him an address in accordance with the above resolution.

And the following Companions were appointed, viz:

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,
" JAMES L. CHILD,
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,
Comp. JONAS WHEELER,
" JOHN H. SHEPPARD,
" PELEG SPRAGUE,
M. E. CHARLES FOX,
Comp. JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT.

When, on motion,

Voted, That the committee shall have power to fill all vacancies that may happen in their number.

M. E. CHARLES FOX and Comp. CHARLES B. SMITH were then appointed a Committee of Finance for the current year.

On motion of Comp. CHILD,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a suitable number of copies of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and furnish the officers and members of this Grand Chapter with copies thereof, and also that he send copies thereof to the Grand Chapters of the several States.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

Attest,

CHAS. B. SMITH, *G. Secretary pro tem.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At a special communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine at Masons' Hall, in Bath, at two o'clock P. M. on the second day of June, A. D. 1825, a Grand Chapter was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Grand High Priest.
"	NATH'L COFFIN,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN H. SHEPPARD	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	WILLIAM PETTINGILL,	" Scribe "
E.	WM. M. BOYD,	" Treasurer *pro tem.*
"	ZINA HYDE,	" Secretary "
E. & Rev.	SILAS STEARNS,	" Chaplain.
"	ASA MEAD,	" "
E.	J. MILLER,	" Marshal *pro tem.*
Comp.	EZEKIEL CUTTER.	
"	ANDREW HEATH.	
"	B. D. BARTLETT.	
"	A. KIMBALL,	Grand Tyler *pro tem.*

Comp's JOHN MILLER, of Warren, and EZEKIEL CUTTER, of Wiscasset, presented, respectively, proxies from M. E. JAMES L. CHILD, Grand King, and E. JOHN B. MANGE, King of New Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter.

On motion,

Voted, That Companions present from subordinate Chapters be admitted to seats in this Grand Chapter.

The following communication was read by the Gr. Secretary:

FROM THE EAST OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,
THIS SEVENTEENTH DAY OF MAY, 5825.

To the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine the M. W. Grand Master sends greeting:

Whereas the Directors of the Bunker Hill Monument Association have requested the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to lay the corner stone of the contemplated monument in ancient masonic form, on the 17th day of June next, and to invite the Masonic Institutions of this and other States to attend on that occasion, with which request the Grand Master has consented to comply,—

You and your officers in Grand Royal Arch Chapter are hereby requested to accompany the Grand Master in the discharge of that duty, on the day aforesaid, and to bring with you your jewels and badges of office. You are also requested to invite, in the name of the Grand Master, all the Chapters under your jurisdiction to attend on that occasion with their jewels and badges of office. You are also requested to cause the banners of your Order to be used on that occasion. It is also desirable that all masons of every degree be requested to wear white gloves on that occasion. It is requested that those Chapters which vote to attend as a body will send information forthwith to the Grand Secretary.

By order of the

M. W. HON. JOHN ABBOT, *Grand Master.*

(Signed,) [THOMAS POWER,] *Grand Secretary.*

On motion,

Voted, That this communication be referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the Chair.

And the M. E. Grand High Priest accordingly appointed M. E. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, of Wiscasset, E. BENJ. D. BARTLETT, of Bath, and E. and Rev. A. MEAD, of Brunswick, on said committee.

A petition was then presented from a number of Companions residing in the town of Thomaston and its vicinity, praying for the grant of a warrant to form a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, to be located at Thomaston.

A report was then presented from New Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, at Wiscasset, offering several reasons for withholding their consent to the formation of a Chapter to be located at Thomaston, and recommending a removal of their meetings for one-half of the time to that place.

These documents, after being read by the Grand Secretary, were ordered to be committed to a committee of three Companions to be appointed by the chair. And the M. E. Grand High Priest was pleased to appoint M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, of Wiscasset, M. E. WILLIAM PETTINGILL, and E. and Rev. SILAS STEARNS, of Bath, on said committee, to report at the regular communication of the Grand Chapter in July next.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to procure, as soon as may be, a suitable Collar, Belt, Jewel, Sash and Apron for the use of the Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter.

The committee to whom was referred the communication from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, extending to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine an invitation to accompany them in the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the Bunker Hill Monument on the 17th of June instant, offered the following report, which was unanimously accepted, viz:

"That in their opinion the interesting ceremonies to be performed on Bunker Hill the 17th June instant, are deeply associated with the histories and masonic character of our common country. That all the Fraternity of every degree, residing in New England, ought, if possible, to be present and participate in the same—more particularly those belonging to the State of Maine, which is so nearly connected with Massachusetts, our parent State. We therefore think that our dignity, rank and respectability, as a Grand Royal Arch Chapter, require our acceptance of this invitation, and that said Grand Chapter should appear at said celebration. Therefore,

"*Resolved*, That we do accept said invitation.

"They also report, that the M. E. Grand High Priest, with such of the officers and members as can make it convenient, be requested to attend upon this occasion, and that he be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for such expenses of the same as he shall deem necessary.

"Per order of the committee,

"(Signed,) JOHN H. SHEPPARD, *Chairman*."

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish the Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, with attested copies of the foregoing report and vote.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

Attest,

ZINA HYDE, *G. Secretary pro tem.*

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine convened, agreeably to previous notice, at the Exchange in Boston, on Thursday, June 16th, 1825, at four o'clock P. M., for the purpose of making arrangements preparatory to its attendance at the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Bunker Hill Monument, appointed to be done on the day following.

PRESENT.

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	Grand King.
E.	AMOS NOURSE, ...	" Secretary.
"	STEPHEN PARSONS, ...	" Steward.

Mount Vernon Chapter, by—

Comp. EZEKIEL CUTTER, proxy of M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, High Priest of said Chapter.

Montgomery Chapter, by—

Comp. JAMES MCLELLAN, proxy of M. E. WM. PETTINGILL, High Priest.
" ZINA HYDE, proxy of E. BENJ. D. BARTLETT, King.

New Jerusalem Chapter, by—

M. E. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, High Priest.
E. JOHN B. MANGE, King.
Comp. THOMAS BRINTNALL, proxy of E. WILLIAM M. BOYD, Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter, by—

E. AMOS NOURSE, Scribe.
Comp. K. G. ROBINSON, proxy of M. E. PELEG SPRAGUE, High Priest.
" E. WHITE, proxy of E. GIDEON FARRELL, King.

VISITORS.

Comp. NATHANIEL CROSS, P. H. Priest,	Comp. GEORGE MARSTON,
DAVID SHAW,	IRA ELLSWORTH,
DAVID STINSON,	MATTHEW PLUMSTEAD.

The Grand Chapter was duly organized as follows:

M. E.	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Grand H. Priest *pro tem.*
"	JAMES L. CHLD, ...	Dep. G. H. Priest "
"	JOHN H. SHEPPARD, ...	Grand King "
"	JOHN B. MANGE, ...	" Scribe "
E.	EZEKIEL CUTTER, ...	" Treasurer "
"	AMOS NOURSE, ...	" Secretary.
Comp.	ZINA HYDE, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
"	JAMES McLELLAN, ...	" R. A. Captain *p. t.*
"	STEPHEN PARSONS, ...	" Steward *pro tem.*
"	EBEN. WHITE, ...	" " "
"	K. G. ROBINSON, ...	" Banner Bearer *p. t.*
"	THOMAS BRINTNALL, . . .	" Sentinel *pro tem.*

The Grand Chapter having been opened in due form, the Grand Secretary read the following communication from our M. E. Grand High Priest:

To M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, ESQ., *of Wiscasset, Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine,* GREETING:

Whereas an invitation from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has been extended to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine to accompany them in laying the corner stone of the Bunker Hill Monument, on the 17th day of June instant; and the invitation having been accepted by the Grand Chapter, and whereas it will be inconvenient for me to give my personal attendance on that interesting occasion, reposing, therefore, special trust and confidence in your masonic talents, I do hereby authorize and empower you to proceed to the city of Boston, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and there, on the 16th day of June instant, to organize and open a Grand Royal Arch Chapter. You are also authorized to select such Royal Arch Masons as you may deem proper to fill the various offices necessary to compose a Grand Chapter, and you will make to me an exact return of all your doings in the premises.

Given under my hand at Brunswick, this sixth day of June, A. D. 1825.

(Signed,) ROBERT P. DUNLAP,
Grand High Priest of the G. R. A. Chapter of Maine.

On motion of E. Comp. NOURSE,

Resolved, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns it adjourn to meet at Master Masons' Hall, in Boston, in a room adjacent to that in which the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is to assemble, to-morrow morning at fifteen minutes before eight o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest, AMOS NOURSE, *Grand Secretary.*

BOSTON, June 17, 1825.

The officers and members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, as organized at its meeting on the 16th, convened agreeably to adjournment; and the Grand High Priest having informed the Grand Chapter that they were invited to be present and witness the reception of GEN. LAFAYETTE by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, directed the Deputy Grand High Priest to announce to the M. W. Grand Master of said Grand Lodge that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine was duly organized in this city in pursuance of his invitation, and ready to accompany the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, at such time as might be agreeable to them, in the highly interesting services of the day.

A communication in reply was received from the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Chapter of Maine was immediately introduced and received in ample form by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetss.

At eight o'clock GEN. LAFAYETTE was announced, and received with appropriate honors. An address was delivered to him by the M. W. Grand Master, expressive of the high sense entertained by the masonic family and our common country of his private worth and public services, to which the General made a suitable reply. The Grand Masters of the Grand Lodges present were then successively introduced, and after them the Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, who, in a brief address, assured him of the satisfaction felt by us on the occasion.

After this distinguished guest had withdrawn, the grand masonic procession was formed, according to previous arrangement, and moved to the site of the contemplated Monument, where the *Corner Stone* was laid with the appropriate masonic ceremonies, and an address delivered by the HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, President of the Bunker Hill Monument Association.

The whole procession then moved to the summit of Bunker Hill, where tables were spread for the refreshment of 4,000 guests. During this movement the Grand Marshal was directed

to wait upon the Grand High Priest of Massachusetts, then in the procession, and to tender to him and to our parent Grand Chapter, our congratulations upon this interesting occasion, which has called us together upon this consecrated ground—and to thank them for those fraternal attentions which had rendered our visit so peculiarly pleasant and beneficial. These expressions were immediately after reciprocated by the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

After partaking of refreshment, and just before the Grand Chapter retired from the tables, the Grand King was directed to communicate to the M. W. Grand Master of Massachusetts the felicitations of this Grand Chapter upon the ceremonies and services of this interesting day, which had assembled under his jurisdiction, and, by his invitation, more of the *fraternity* organized as such, than had probably ever been convened, since the completion and dedication of King Solomon's Temple; and also to express to him, and to the Grand Lodge, our thanks for their attentions, which had rendered our visit so full of interest and satisfaction.

The Grand Chapter, having retired from the tables, assembled again at 6 o'clock P. M., at the place of meeting in the morning, and having completed the business before them, adjourned without day.

Attest,

AMOS NOURSE, *Grand Secretary.*

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine met at Masons' Hall in Bath, agreeably to adjournment, on Wednesday, July 27, A. D. 1825.

PRESENT.

M. E. NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest.
E. & Rev. SILAS STEARNS, ...	Grand Chaplain.
" ASA MEAD, ...	" "

Montgomery R. A. Chapter, by—
M. E. WILLIAM PETTINGILL, High Priest.
E. BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT, King.

New Jerusalem Chapter, by—
Comp. ISAAC G. REED, proxy of M. E. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, H. P.
" PETER H. GREEN, proxy of E. JNO. B. MANGE, King.
" ZINA HYDE, proxy of E. WM. M. BOYD, Scribe.

VISITORS.

M. E. ABNER BOURNE,
Comp. WILLIAM TORREY, Comp. PETER VIGOUREUX.

Comp. WILLIAM TORREY was appointed Grand Secretary *pro tem.*, and M. E. ABNER BOURNE Grand Marshal *pro tem.*

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form at 3 o'clock P. M.

Prayers were offered by E. and Rev. Comp. SILAS STEARNS.

The M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest read a report of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter at the laying of the corner stone of Bunker Hill Monument, on the 17th ultimo. Thereupon,

Ordered, That the same be entered with the records of this Grand Chapter, and the account of the expenses incurred by the Grand Chapter on that occasion be referred to the Committee of Finance.

The report is accordingly entered as follows:

To the M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ESQ., *Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maine.*

SIR:—Immediately on receiving your commission directing me to proceed to Boston and organize and preside over the Grand Chapter at the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Bunker Hill Monument, I made the necessary arrangements for performing that service, and the records of our meeting will present you a brief account of our proceedings on the occasion.

The concourse of people at this interesting ceremony was probably greater than had ever before been witnessed in New England. The streets and houses which were passed by the procession were completely filled; the procession itself was nearly two miles in length, and comprised more than ten thousand persons. It was the most interesting group ever exhibited in our country, comprising more than one hundred soldiers of the Revolution, nearly as many survivors of the Battle of Bunker Hill, and, in addition to these, the object upon which all eyes linger, the "*Nation's Guest*," who, without controversy, is the most distinguished individual now living on the earth.

The masonic assemblage was very great and formed a very splendid part of the display. They were formed as one body, and, although composed of 3,000 individuals and consisting of more than thirty distinct organized fraternities, many of them from other States, and most of them remote from the scene of exhibition, yet were all brought together and arranged in regular procession as one great Grand Lodge before nine o'clock in the morning, and were halted on the ground allotted them in the *general* procession within five minutes of the time assigned.

I enclose you the order in which we moved: by this you will see that the masonic procession consisted of several grand divisions, each distinguished by its appropriate banners. First, the Blue Lodges, each according to rank, and yet so blended, that the whole formed *One great Master Mason's Lodge.* Next came the Royal Arch procession, composed of Chapters and Grand Chapters in regular succession, in such order that the whole appeared as one Grand Royal Arch Chapter under the direction of the Grand High Priest of the oldest Grand Chapter. Then came the procession of Knights Templar, composed of the Encampments of the six New England States, each having its appropriate banner, and all formed as one Grand Encampment under the command of the Deputy General Grand Master of the United States. Next to these, with the exception that some presiding Masters of Lodges were interposed, came the visiting Grand Lodges, followed by the inviting Grand Lodge, and closed by the presiding Grand Master of the whole. Such a procession, composed of organized bodies of these high degrees, is novel in the history of masonry. This is the first instance on record, as far as my knowledge extends, in which *Grand Lodges, Grand Encampments* and *Grand Chapters* have been marshalled in company with subordinate Chapters and subordinate Lodges, in one Grand Masonic Procession; and it is creditable to the Fraternity, that its *principles of unity,* which are so simple, should yet be of such universal application and so generally understood, that this vast and novel assemblage should have been organized so soon, with but one single error, and that so trifling, that were it not for the fear that it might be drawn into precedent and considered as settled, because not objected to, I should not now have called your attention to it. The error doubtless arose from consultation of books which lay down the order of processions composed of Lodges merely, whether Grand or Subordinate, and in which places are assigned to *Individuals* of the higher orders, but none to visiting or accompanying organized bodies of those degrees: and inasmuch as Templars and Royal Arch Masons are not, *as such,* members of the Grand Lodge, it is evident that, in a procession composed entirely of Lodges, they must appear as component parts of a Master's Lodge, and can of course have rank only as Past Masters, which is the highest grade a presiding Master can acknowledge. In the order of the 17th of June, it will at once strike you that presiding Masters were separated from the body over which they had authority to preside, by

several intervening organized Bodies, over which they neither had, or could have any authority or control. They were placed between visiting Grand Lodges and the visiting Grand Encampments, where they could not belong, either as Masters *presiding* or as *guests*, or as component parts of the inviting Grand Lodge.

You will doubtless have noticed also in the arrangement that Grand Lodges took precedence of Grand Chapters and Grand Encampments, although these last Bodies are necessarily composed of higher degrees than are required for membership of the former; but several reasons might be assigned for this order—one only, however, is necessary to be mentioned, and that is important because of universal application. It is this: that, in such a procession, Bodies of the same grade should be together, or, in other words, should be so arranged as to form one Body in the procession. Inasmuch, therefore, as a Grand Lodge was the inviting Body upon this occasion, and took precedence, all invited Grand Lodges, being necessary parts of the Grand Lodge procession, should be formed with them, and, of course, take rank over other invited Bodies. Had a Grand Chapter or Grand Encampment been the inviting or presiding Body, it is obvious that for the same reason a different order of procession would have been observed.

I will merely add that every thing on the part of the Fraternity was conducted with the most perfect harmony and good feeling; that several interchanges of congratulation took place between the different Masonic Bodies, and that every thing was done which could be, both by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, to make our visit interesting and pleasant.

In pursuance of your order, I received of the Grand Treasurer fifty dollars to meet the expenses of this meeting, and herewith present my account of its disbursement for the examination and allowance of the Grand Chapter.

With sentiments of respect and fraternal regard,

I am, Most Excellent, your friend and Companion,

(Signed,) NATH'L COFFIN,

D. G. H. P. of the G. R. A. Chapter of the State of Maine.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Comp. John H. Ingraham and others for a Chapter to be located at Thomaston, with the proceedings of New Jerusalem Chapter on the same, made the following report:

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the application of Comp. John H. Ingraham and others for a new Chapter to be holden at Thomaston, and also the resolutions and application of New Jerusalem Chapter thereon, have duly and maturely considered the same, and do accordingly report, that it is inexpedient to institute a new Chapter as prayed for, but that it would be expedient and proper to grant a dispensation to New Jerusalem Chapter to hold its meetings alternately, year by year, as said Chapter

shall consider most useful, at Wiscasset and Thomaston, according to their application; but we are of opinion that for such dispensation the sum of fifty-five dollars should be paid to the Grand Chapter, fifty dollars to go into the funds of the Grand Chapter, and five to be retained by the Grand Secretary as a compensation for making out and procuring to be duly executed the necessary dispensation. We are happy to report also that such a dispensation will meet the cordial approbation of the petitioners for a new Chapter, as well as that of our Companions of New Jerusalem Chapter, and we accordingly recommend,

That the Grand Secretary be directed to make out and deliver to the High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter, a dispensation according to this report, upon his receiving the above sum.

(Signed,) NATHANIEL COFFIN, WILLIAM PETTINGILL, SILAS STEARNS, } *Committee.*

On motion, it was

Resolved unanimously, That the above report be accepted.

The following report was then presented and read:

The committee having under consideration the code of by-laws reported at the communication of the Grand Chapter in January last report:

That no further regulations than those already prepared, and as now amended and herewith presented in a new draft, are at present necessary for the government of this Grand Chapter.

(Signed,) NATH'L COFFIN, *by order of the Committee.*

This report being deliberately considered and all the articles presented being separately and fully discussed, the same are accepted and ordered to be recorded as the code of by-laws adopted under our Act of Incorporation for the government of the Grand Chapter.*

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure, as soon as may be, in the pamphlet form, two hundred copies of the by-laws adopted at this meeting, to contain the act of incorporation, and also the names of the subordinate Chapters, their places and times of meeting, and the names of the permanent members of this Grand Chapter; that he furnish each of the officers of the Grand Chapter with a copy, and forward to the Secretary of each subordinate Chapter as many copies as it contains members.

E. and Rev. Comp. MEAD offered the following resolution,

* The by-laws having been already printed and distributed, are omitted in this place.

which was referred to a committee consisting of M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, E. and Rev. Comp. ASA MEAD and E. Comp. B. D. BARTLETT:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter take measures, as soon as possible, to establish a charity fund for the education of the necessitous orphans of deceased Royal Arch Masons.

Voted, That the next communication of this Grand Chapter be holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the fourth Wednesday of January next, at six o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

Attest,

WM. TORREY, *G. Secretary pro tem.*

SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

At a communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the fourth Wednesday, being the 25th day of January, A. D. 1826.

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	Grand Steward.
"	STEPHEN PARSONS, ...	" "
"	WM. STEVENS, ...	" Sentinel.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon Chapter, by—

M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, High Priest.
E. HORACE SEAVER, King.
" THOMAS DODGE, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter by—

Comp. JOHN DORR, proxy of E. SETH BARTLETT, Scribe.

VISITING COMPANIONS.

Rev. Obed Wilson, Eli Merrill, Eben. Seaver, Isaac Ingersoll, S. L. Raymond, D. Burbank and Moses Springer.

The Grand Chapter was organized by the above mentioned officers, the Deputy Grand High Priest officiating as Grand King *pro tem.*, E. Comp. Stephen Parsons, as Grand Scribe *pro tem.*, M. E. C. B. Smith, as Grand Secretary *pro tem.*, and E. Horace Seaver, as Grand Marshal *pro tem.*, and was opened in due form.

Voted, That the present officers of the Grand Chapter hold their offices respectively until the annual communication of the Grand Chapter in July next.

Voted, That M. E. Comp's Charles Fox and Charles B. Smith, and E. Comp. Horace Seaver, be a Committee of Finance to audit and settle the accounts of the Grand Chapter up to the next annual communication.

Voted, That the subordinate Chapters be requested so to alter their by-laws as to have their annual meetings some time in June; and that they be directed to make up their returns and pay their dues on or before the first day of July, annually.

Voted, That it be recommended to the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction to make provision for paying the expenses of the High Priest, King and Scribe of their Chapters, respectively, in attending the regular communications of the Grand Chapter.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to procure a Seal for this Grand Chapter, the device of which to be approved by the first four officers.

Voted, That all committees of this Grand Chapter be directed to report upon the several subjects referred to them at the annual communication in July next.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

Attest,

CHAS. B. SMITH, *G. Secretary pro tem.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1826.

At the annual communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, at Masons' Hall in Bath, on the first Wednesday, being the fifth day of July, A. D. 1826:

PRESENT.

M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, ... Dep. Gr. High Priest.
" AMOS NOURSE, ... Grand Secretary.
E. & Rev. SILAS STEARNS, ... " Chaplain.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Montgomery Chapter, by—
M. E. BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT, High Priest.
E. ANDREW HEATH, King.

New Jerusalem Chapter, by—
M. E. JOHN H. INGRAHAM, High Priest.
E. ISAAC G. REED, King,
" SETH BARTLETT, Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter, by—
M. E. AMOS NOURSE, High Priest.

VISITORS.

M. E. Comp's ZABDIEL HYDE and WM. PETTINGILL, Past High Priests, Rev. Comp. SENECA WHITE, Comp's JOSEPH BLISH, EZEKIEL CUTTER, HENRY CLARK and ABRAHAM KIMBALL.

The Grand Chapter was organized as follows, and opened in due form;

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	BENJ. D. BARTLETT, ...	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	AMOS NOURSE, ...	" Scribe "
E.	ANDREW HEATH, ...	" Treasurer *pro tem.*
"	ISAAC G. REED, ...	" Secretary "
E. & Rev.	SILAS STEARNS, ...	" Chaplain.
E.	SETH BARTLETT, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
Comp.	ABRAHAM KIMBALL, ...	" Sentinel "

The M. E. Grand High Priest gave notice that M. E. Comp. CHILD declined being a candidate for re-election to the office of Grand King, and M. E. Comp. NOURSE declined being a candidate for re-election to the office of Grand Secretary.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and the ballots having been received, sorted and counted, by a committee appointed for that purpose, the following M. E. and E. Companions were declared to be unanimously elected:

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, of Brunswick,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	NATH'L COFFIN, of Wiscasset,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, of Portland,	*Grand King.*
"	PELEG SPRAGUE, of Hallowell,	" *Scribe.*
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	SETH BARTLETT, of Wiscasset,	" *Secretary.*

On motion,

Voted, That a Committee of Three be appointed to wait upon M. E. Comp. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, and inform him of his election to the office of Grand High Priest for the ensuing year.

And M. E. Comp. B. D. BARTLETT, and E. Comps. I. G. REED and S. STEARNS were appointed accordingly.

On motion,

Ordered, That eight o'clock A. M. to-morrow, be assigned for installing such of the Grand Officers elect as shall have accepted the offices to which they have been elected, and shall be present.

On motion,

Voted, That M. E. Comp. INGRAHAM and E. Comp. REED, be a committee to consider and report at the next communication of this Grand Chapter, what compensation shall be allowed to the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary for their services.

A communication from the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Kentucky, on the subject of dissolving the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, was read and referred to M. E. Comp. INGRAHAM, E. Comp's REED and S. BARTLETT, to consider and report thereon.

The following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the 3d Article of the by-laws be so amended, as that the annual communication shall be holden at Portland, on the second Wednesday of January—

was offered, read, and ordered to be placed on the files; and the further consideration thereof postponed to the next communication.

Ordered, That the Committee of Finance be directed to report as soon as may be.

And M. E. Comp's CHARLES FOX and CHARLES B. SMITH, and E. Comp. HORACE SEAVER, who composed that committee the last year, were appointed a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

Duplicate returns, agreeably to the by-laws, were received from Montgomery and New Jerusalem R. A. Chapters, and their respective dues paid.

Resolved, That it is expedient that this Grand Chapter be represented in the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States at its next regular meeting, and that the expenses of the Grand High Priest or other Grand Officer, or the proxy of either of them, who may go from this Chapter for the purpose of representing it, be paid; and that the M. E. Grand High Priest be authorized to draw his order on the Grand Treasurer for such sum as he may think necessary for that purpose.

Ordered, That the Grand Chapter be now adjourned until to-morrow, at half-past seven o'clock A. M.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest,

ISAAC G. REED, *G. Secretary pro tem.*

MASONS' HALL, BATH, July 6, 1826.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	B. D. BARTLETT, ...	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	SILAS STEARNS, ...	" Scribe "
E.	ANDREW HEATH, ...	" Treasurer *pro tem.*
"	SETH BARTLETT, ...	" Secretary.
"	ABNER BOURNE, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
Comp.	ABRAHAM KIMBALL, ...	" Sentinel "

M. E. Comp. JOHN H. INGRAHAM and E. Comp. ISAAC G. REED, and several visiting Companions.

The record of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

The following communication from a convention of High Priests was received and read, and ordered to be recorded, viz:

"In a convention of High Priests held in the Montgomery Chapter Hall, at Bath, on the fifth day of July, 1826, M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ESQ., in the chair:

"The Order of Priesthood was regularly conferred on the M. E. WILLIAM PETTINGILL, Past High Priest of Montgomery Chapter, and on the M. E. BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT, High Priest of said Chapter, and on M. E. and Rev. JOHN H. INGRAHAM, High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter, and they were duly anointed as such.

"*Voted,* That M. E. Comp's DUNLAP, COFFIN and BOURNE be a committee to report on the propriety and expediency of forming a State Grand Council of High Priests for the State of Maine, and that they be requested to make their report on that subject in January next.

"The convention was then duly closed.

"Attest, ABNER BOURNE, *Grand Secretary.*"

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP declined accepting the office of Grand High Priest, and the Grand Chapter having proceeded to fill the vacancies, the following M. E. Companions were declared by the committee appointed to receive, sort and count the ballots, to be unanimously elected:

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN, of Wiscasset,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, of Portland,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	PELEG SPRAGUE, of Hallowell,	*Grand King.*
"	SILAS STEARNS, of Bath,	" *Scribe.*

The following appointments were then announced by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

E. & Rev.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	ASA MEAD, of Brunswick,	"	"
"	REUBEN NASON, of Gorham,	"	"
"	SENECA WHITE, of Bath,	"	"
E.	ABNER BOURNE, Esq., of Brunswick,	"	*Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, of Hallowell,	"	"
"	STEPHEN PARSONS, of Edgecomb,	"	"
"	ZINA HYDE, of Bath,	"	"
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	"	*Sentinel.*

The Grand Officers who were present were duly installed into their respective offices.

The following report was read and accepted:

The committee to whom was referred a communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Kentucky, proposing a dissolution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, have considered that subject, and, viewing it as one of general interest and great importance, and desiring that it should be treated with the deliberation which is due to its importance, and the respectful consideration to which the high body referred to is entitled from those who have acknowledged themselves under its jurisdiction, recommend, that the further consideration of the subject be referred to the next communication of this Grand Chapter, and that it be committed in the mean time to the first four Grand Officers of this Grand Chapter, to consider and report thereon.

JOHN H. INGRAHAM,
ISAAC G. REED, } *Committee.*
SETH BARTLETT,

July 6, 1826.

M. E. Comp. JOHN H. INGRAHAM submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be presented to our M. E. Comp. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, for the able and dignified manner in which he has sustained the high and responsible duties of the office of Grand High Priest

for the last three years, and that our best wishes attend him through the subsequent journey of life.

On motion,

Ordered, That Friday, the 14th day of July instant, at 10 o'clock A. M., and this Hall, be the time and place assigned for the installation of such of the Grand Officers elect as have not been installed, and shall have signified their acceptance and made the requisite declaration; and that the Grand Secretary notify them of their appointment, and the time and place assigned for their installation: and that when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to said time and place.

The minutes of the proceedings were read and approved.

Adjourned, as ordered.

Attest,

SETH BARTLETT, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, BATH, July 14, 1826.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, . . .	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	SILAS STEARNS, ...	Grand Scribe.
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, . . .	" Treasurer.
"	SETH BARTLETT, ...	" Secretary.
E. & Rev.	SENECA WHITE, ...	" Chaplain.
E.	STEPHEN PARSONS, . . .	" Steward.
"	ZINA HYDE, ...	" "

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ... Past Grand High Priest.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon Chapter by—

E. Comp. PETER H. GREEN, proxy of M. E. CHAS. B. SMITH, H. Priest.

New Jerusalem Chapter by—

E. ISAAC G. REED, King.

SETH BARTLETT, Scribe.

VISITORS.

Comp's SCOTT J. TALLMAN, JOHN ELWELL and ABRAHAM KIMBALL.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter was organized by the above mentioned Grand Officers, and M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, P. G. High Priest, officiating as Grand King *pro tem.*, E. ISAAC G. REED officiating as Grand Marshal *pro tem.*, and Comp. ABRAHAM KIMBALL officiating as Grand Sentinel *pro tem.*

The record of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter on the 6th of July instant were read and approved.

Communications from E. and Rev. Comp's JONATHAN GREENLEAF and REUBEN NASON were read, signifying their acceptance of the office of Grand Chaplain, and containing the declaration required by the by-laws.

The Grand Officers not before installed, who were present, were duly installed into their respective offices, and E. and Rev. Comp's GREENLEAF and NASON were installed by proxies.

On motion,

Ordered, That the installation of the Grand Officers who have not been installed be postponed to the next communication of this Grand Chapter.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, from the committee appointed January 26, A. D. 1825, to wait upon GEN. LAFAYETTE and present him an address in the name and behalf of this Grand Chapter, reported: That the committee had performed the duties assigned them, and a copy of the address and reply would be furnished to be placed on the files of the Grand Chapter.*

Adjourned to two o'clock, afternoon.

At two o'clock, afternoon, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter met according to adjournment.

*This address and reply are not on the files. GRAND SECRETARY.

PRESENT.

M. E.	NATH'L COFFIN,	Grand High Priest.
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	SILAS STEARNS,	Grand Scribe.
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" Treasurer.
"	SETH BARTLETT,	" Secretary.
E. & Rev.	SENECA WHITE,	" Chaplain.
E.	STEPHEN PARSONS,	" Steward.
"	ZINA HYDE,	" "
"	ISAAC G. REED,	
"	PETER H. GREEN,	

and several visitors.

The Grand Chapter was organized by the above mentioned Grand Officers, M. E. Samuel Fessenden, D. G. H. Priest, officiating as Grand King *pro tem.*, and E. Isaac G. Reed, as Grand Marshal *pro tem.*, and Comp. Abraham Kimball as Grand Sentinel *pro tem.*

The Grand Treasurer made a report of the state of the Treasury of the Grand Chapter, which was read and ordered to be placed on file; by which report it appears:

That since January 1, 1825, (at which time the accounts were audited by the Committee of Accounts and report made to the Grand Chapter), he has received from the several subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and in full up to July 1, 1826,.....$448.00

That he has paid sundry bills and expenses, including a balance of $10.75, due him on the last settlement,..... 135.97½

Leaving in the Treasury,.....$312.02½

That his account has been examined and audited by the Committee of Accounts, as by their certificate on his book will appear: And that all bills and accounts against the Grand Chapter, within his knowledge, are settled and paid, except that of the late Grand Secretary, in whose hands, on settlement, it was believed there would be a small balance.

Returns, agreeably to the by-laws, were received from Mount Vernon and Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapters, by which it appears that their respective dues have been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

The following resolution, submitted by E. Comp. Joseph M. Gerrish, Grand Treasurer, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be required to give bond to this Grand Chapter, himself as principal, with sufficient surety or sureties, to be approved by the M. E. Grand High Priest, in the penal sum of five thousand dollars, for the faithful performance of the duties of his office; and that the same be lodged in the hands of the Grand Secretary.

The following preamble and resolution, submitted by M. E. Samuel Fessenden, Deputy Grand High Priest, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It is a primary principle of the Masonic Institution to do good to all men, but especially to "the household of faith;" and whereas the advancement of the best interests of mankind depend essentially on the extensive diffusion of knowledge and virtue; and whereas the duty of masons requires that the kind and beneficent offices of love should be extended to the children of the brethren; and whereas, by the wise determination of the Great Giver of all good, some of the Companions, by misfortune, are unable to educate their offspring, and others are taken out of life, leaving children without the means of acquiring that information which may render them useful members of society—therefore

Resolved, That a committee be raised to enquire into the expediency of laying the foundation of a fund for the education of the children of Companion Royal Arch Masons in those arts and sciences which, under the smiles of Providence, may train them for usefulness and happiness.

And M. E. Samuel Fessenden, E. Isaac G. Reed and E. and Rev. Asa Mead, were appointed a committee in pursuance of the foregoing resolution.

Ordered, That all committees appointed for purposes similar to those mentioned in the preceding resolution be excused from further consideration of the subjects referred to them.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed such of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter as have not already been printed, with the last returns of the officers, members and candidates of subordinate Chapters, and transmit a copy thereof to each of the Grand Officers and permanent members of this Grand Chapter, and a suitable number of copies to the several Chapters under this jurisdiction, to the General Grand Chapter, and the Grand Chapters of the several States.

On motion of E. Comp. I. G. Reed,

Resolved, That there be a communication of this Grand Chapter at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the third Wednesday (being the 17th day) of January next, at six o'clock in the evening.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter on this day were read and approved.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

Attest,

SETH BARTLETT, *Grand Secretary.*

OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND CANDIDATES

OF

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON R. A. CHAPTER—Portland.

OFFICERS.

M. E.	Charles B. Smith,	High Priest.
E.	Horace Seaver,	King.
"	Thomas Dodge,	Scribe.
Comp.	Nehemiah Cram,	Treasurer.
"	William Lord,	Secretary.
"	Seth Bird,	R. A. Captain.
"	Isaac Ingersoll,	C. H.
"	Nelson Racklyft,	P. S.
"	Samuel L. Raymond,	G. M. V.
"	Oliver Gerrish,	"
"	Charles Chase,	"
"	Moses Smith,	Steward.
"	David Burbank,	"
"	William Stevens,	Tyler.

MEMBERS.

M. E. Comp. James D. Hopkins, P. H. P., and P. G. H. P. of Massachusetts. M. E. Charles Fox and William Swan, P. H. Priests.

Comp's Joseph M. Gerrish, Joseph Harrod, John P. Boyd, Arthur Shirley, Nathan Nutter, Daniel Thompson, Stephen Swett, M. McNeil Burdick, Dexter Brewer, Alpheus Shaw, Daniel Mountfort, Samuel Fessenden, Oliver S. Hartshorn, Luther Richardson, David Jones, Jr., James Alden, Amos Nichols, James Chadburn, David Stackpole, Ebenezer Seaver, Samuel Soule, Edward Kelleran, Eleazer Wyer, James C. Churchill, Daniel Garland, Samuel

Davis, John Wildrage, John Merrill, Ebenezer Libby, John Leach, Perez Drinkwater.

CANDIDATES EXALTED SINCE JAN. 1, 1825.

Rev. Phineas Crandall, John C. Talbot, Ebenezer Seaver, Alpheus Shaw, Jeremiah Haskell, Rev. Samuel Stone, George L. Darling, Jeremiah Fowler, Calvin Stockbridge, Joseph B. Walton, Rev. Noah Creesey, Stepben Morse, Salathiel Sweetser, Woodman W. Magoon, Dexter Brewer, Samuel Soule, David Burbank, Moses Davis, Daniel Mountfort, Thomas O. Bradley.

MONTGOMERY R. A. CHAPTER—Bath.

OFFICERS.

M. E.	Benj. D. Bartlett,	High Priest.
E.	Andrew Heath,	King.
"	John C. Humphreys,	Scribe.
Comp.	David Stinson,	Treasurer.
"	William Torrey,	Secretary.
"	Jeremiah Ellsworth,	R. A. Captain.
"	Scott J. Tallman,	C. H.
"	Matthew B. Plumstead,	P. S.
"	Tileston Cushing,	G. M. V.
"	H. G. Allen,	"
"	Joseph Demerrett,	"
"	John Marson,	Steward.
"	John Allen,	"
"	Abraham Kimball,	Tyler.

MEMBERS.

M. E. Comp's R. P. Dunlap, P. G. H. P., Zabdiel Hyde, Nathaniel Cross, Wm. Pettingill and Abner Bourne, Past High Priests.

Comp's Eben. Delano, Rev. Charles Virgin, Samuel G. Bowman, Rev. Seneca White, Zina Hyde, John Sylvester, Thomas Eaton, Peter H. Green, Rev. Silas Stearns, Daniel Patterson, Edward Wood, Jonathan Page, Daniel Marston, David Shaw, James McLellan, Rev. William Frost, Dwelly Turner, John Smith, Abiezer Matthews, Joseph Blish.

CANDIDATES EXALTED SINCE JAN. 1, 1825.

Rev. Abraham Cummings, John Allen, Elijah Crooker, Rev. Seneca White, Moses Riggs, John Elwell, Eben'r Reading, Joseph Blish, Thomas Eaton.

NEW JERUSALEM R. A. CHAPTER—Wiscasset and Thomaston.

OFFICERS.

M. E.	John H. Ingraham,	High Priest.
E.	Isaac G. Reed,	King.
"	Seth Bartlett,	Scribe.
Comp.	Joel Miller,	Treasurer.
"	Jacob Goodwin,	Secretary.
"	Oliver Amsbury,	R. A. Captain.
"	John Miller,	C. H.
"	Benjamin S. Dean,	P. S.
"	John Balch,	G. M. V.
"	William Battie,	"
"	Thomas Arnold,	"
"	George Robinson,	Steward.
"	Barten T. Levensaler,	"
"	Edward Breck,	Sentinel.

MEMBERS.

M. E. Comp's Nathaniel Coffin, Abiel Wood, Erastus Foote, John H. Sheppard, Past High Priests.

Comp's David Otis, Samuel W. Clark, William M. Boyd, Thomas Brintnall, William Smith, Rev. Freeman Parker, Richard M. Barker, Rev. Barnabas Hedge, Henry Clark, James Taylor, Samuel Kidder, William Cole, Charles Holmes, Samuel Heal, Barnabas Webb, Stoddard Bosworth, Thos. McCrate, John B. Mange, Jonas G. Brooks, Robert McLean, P. E. Theobald, Rev. John Atwell, Payn Elwell, Nathan Clark, Jr., Rev. Alonzo King, James G. Lord, Halsey Healey, Avery Rawson, Charles Harrington, Oliver Fales, Thomas Hodgman, Rev. Gershom F. Cox, Noyes P. Hawes, James Gilman, Eben'r Hilton, Moses Shaw, Asa F. Hall, Aaron Young, Ezekiel Cutter, Gorham Parks, John Dorr, Warren Rice, Ephraim Perry, Rufus C. Counce, Virgil H. Hewes, Dimon Furnel, John O'Brien, William Groton, Richard Robinson.

CANDIDATES EXALTED SINCE JAN. 1, 1825.

Ephraim Perry, John Balch, Avery Rawson, Charles Holmes, Thomas Hodgman, Edward Breck, William Cole, Charles Harrington, Dimon Furnel, Halsey Healey, Rufus C. Counce, Virgil H. Hewes, Jacob Ludwig, William Groton, Stoddard Bosworth, George Robinson, John O'Brien, Barnabas Webb, Samuel Heal, B. T. Levensaler, Moses Copeland, Oliver Fales, Rev. G. F. Cox, Richard Robinson, Noyes P. Hawes.

JERUSALEM R. A. CHAPTER—HALLOWELL.

OFFICERS.

M. E.	AMOS NOURSE,	High Priest.
E.	SAMUEL K. GILMAN,	King.
"	JOHN D. LORD,	Scribe.
Comp.	K. G. ROBINSON,	Treasurer.
"	WILLIAM MORSE, JR.,	Secretary.
"	A. MASTERS,	R. A. Captain.
"	JOSEPH CHANDLER,	C. H.
"	D. WADSWORTH,	P. S.
"	J. K. GILMAN,	G. M. V.
"	M. SPRINGER, JR.,	"
"	B. WEEKS,	"
"	R. GARDINER,	Steward.
"	T. GILPATRICK,	"
"	STEPHEN LORD,	Tyler.

MEMBERS.

M. E. Comp's Gideon W. Olney, Lawrence Sprague, E. T. Warren, James L. Child, Ariel Mann, Jesse Robinson, Past High Priests.

Comp's Job Ingraham, Oliver Beal, Warren Preston, John Barstow, Isaac Gage, Gideon Farrell, Alvan Hayward, Daniel Campbell, Oliver Colburn, Eben'r White, Moses Whittier, Thomas Dennis, William Bowen, David W. Pierce, Joseph Y. Gray, Jedediah Herrick, John Prescott, Peter Vigoureux, Rev. Daniel Chessman.

CANDIDATES EXALTED SINCE DEC. 2, 1824.

Rev. Hadley Proctor, A. A. Dillingham, J. F. Alden, R. W. Lawson, Alfred Marshall, Rev. Stephen Lovell, Samuel Philbrick, David Washburn, Rev. Heman Nickerson, Abisha Benson, Rev. Stephen Chapin, Z. Sanger, Rev. Ezra Kellog, A. Lyon, Rev. James Merrick, Ezekiel Holmes, Rev. E. W. Freeman, Stephen Lord, Rev. Whitman Metcalf, Joseph Philbrick, M. P. Norton.

SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

In pursuance of an order passed in July last, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine met at Masons' Hall, in Portland, Jan. 17, 1827, and was organized as follows, viz:

M. E.	CHARLES FOX, P. G. H. P., . . .	G. H. Priest *pro tem.*
"	ELEAZER WYER, ...	Grand King "
"	JOHN H. INGRAHAM, ...	" Scribe "
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	SETH BARTLETT, ...	" Secretary.
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Steward "
"	LUTHER RICHARDSON, . . .	" " "
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Sentinel.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon Chapter, by—

M. E. ELEAZER WYER, High Priest.
E. OLIVER GERRISH, King.
" LUTHER RICHARDSON, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, by—

M. E. JOHN H. INGRAHAM, High Priest.
" ISAAC G. REED, King.
E. SETH BARTLETT, Scribe.

Several Companions were admitted as visitors.

On motion, M. E. JOHN H. INGRAHAM and E. ISAAC G. REED, and LUTHER RICHARDSON, were appointed a committee to exam-

ine the foreign correspondence and report thereon at the adjonrnment of this meeting.

A petition was presented, signed by nine Companions, for a new Chapter at Eastport, by the name of Eureka Chapter, and having been read, was committed to M. E. SAMUEL FESSENDEN, and E. ISAAC G. REED and OLIVER GERRISH.

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it adjourn till to-morrow afternoon, at two o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

JANUARY 18, 1827.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, . . .	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	JOHN H. INGRAHAM, . . .	" Scribe "
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, . . .	" Treasurer.
"	SETH BARTLETT, . . .	" Secretary.
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, . . .	" Marshal *pro tem.*
"	ISAAC G. REED, ...	" Steward "
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" " "
Comp.	JOHN LEACH, ...	" Sentinel "

Chapters represented same as yesterday. Several visitors were admitted.

A petition was presented, signed by nine regular Royal Arch Masons, for a new Chapter at Bangor, by the name of Mount Moriah Chapter, which was read and referred to M. E. JAMES L. CHILD, and E. ISAAC G. REED and OLIVER GERRISH.

The Committee of Finance made their report, which was read and accepted.

The committee on the petition for a new Chapter at Bangor,

reported that the prayer thereof be granted, which report was read and accepted.

The committee on the petition for a new Chapter at Eastport, reported—

"That the prayer thereof be so far granted, that the M. E. Grand High Priest be requested to grant a dispensation accordingly, upon the filing with the Grand Secretary a certificate of New Jerusalem Chapter or of Jerusalem Chapter, vouching for the moral character and masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending to the Grand Chapter to grant them a warrant."

Which report was read and accepted.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of compensation to the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, reported—

"That there be allowed and paid to E. Comp. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, for his services as Grand Treasurer, up to July 5, 1826, the sum of $30; and that there be allowed and paid to E. Comp's JAMES L. CHILD and AMOS NOURSE, the sum of $10 each, in full for their services as Grand Secretaries; and that there be allowed and paid to the present and future Grand Treasurers and Grand Secretaries, the amount of their actual expenses in attending the annual communications of the Grand Chapter, together with such annual compensation as the Committee of Finance may deem adequate for their services."

Which report was read and accepted.

E. Comp. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Grand Treasurer, requested the Grand Chapter to accept the amount of $30, allowed him by the committee as a compensation for his services, to lay the foundation of a charity fund, or to be otherwise disposed of as the Grand Chapter may order, which was accepted. And thereupon, on motion,

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be presented to E. Comp. JOSEPH M. GERRISH for this renewed instance of his masonic liberality and charity in making this donation.

The resolution submitted by M. E. Comp. NOURSE at the annual communication in July last, respecting an amendment of the third article of the by-laws, was taken up, and on motion of M. E. Comp. FOX, was amended so as to read as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the third article of the by-laws be so amended as that the annual communications shall be held at Portland, on the Wednesday next preceding the second Thursday of January, at six o'clock P. M.

And the same was adopted.

On motion of M. E. Comp. CHARLES B. SMITH,

Resolved, That the present officers of this Grand Chapter hold their respective offices until the annual meeting in January next.

On motion,

Voted, That M. E. CHARLES FOX, ROBERT P. DUNLAP and JAMES L. CHILD be a committee to consider and report what disposition this Grand Chapter shall make of E. Comp. Grand Treasurer's donation.

The Grand Chapter was then adjourned till to-morrow evening at six o'clock.

JANUARY 19, 1827.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment, M. E. SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Deputy Grand High Priest, in the chair.

Chapters represented, Mount Vernon, New Jerusalem and Jerusalem.

Several visitors were admitted.

The committee appointed to consider and report what disposition this Grand Chapter shall make of E. Comp. Grand Treasurer's donation, reported—

"That it is expedient and highly necessary that this Grand Chapter should be possessed of a Charity Fund, to enable them to meet the wants of distressed Companions, their widows and orphans; and availing themselves of the present favorable opportunity, they would recommend that the aforesaid donation be applied as the foundation of a Charity Fund."

And they also submitted certain Rules and Regulations for the government of the Trustees of said Fund; which report was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then appeared and took the Chair, and communicated some interesting facts relative to the late meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, not noticed in their printed proceedings.

The report of the committee relative to the donation of E. Comp. Grand Treasurer was called up, and being read a second time, an amendment of the Rules and Regulations reported was offered by M. E. Comp. CHILD; whereupon, on motion, the further consideration of the *report* and *amendment* was postponed to the next meeting of this Grand Chapter.

The vote adopting the resolution passed yesterday, amending the third article of the by-laws, was re-considered, and that resolution being amended so as to read as follows, was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the third article of the by-laws be so amended as that the annual communications shall be held at Portland, on the Tuesday succeeding the second Thursday of January, at six o'clock P. M. Also—

Resolved, That the twelfth article of the by-laws he so altered as to conform with the amendment of the third article aforesaid.

M. E. Comp. FOX requested to be excused from further service on the Committee of Finance, and he was excused accordingly; and M. E. ELEAZER WYER was appointed on that committee.

The account of the Grand Secretary for disbursements and expenses was presented and allowed for $21.55, and ordered to be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

The account of Comp. JOHN LEACH, Grand Sentinel *pro tem.*, was presented and allowed for $4.50, and ordered to be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

The minutes of the proceedings were read and approved, and the Grand Chapter closed in due form.

Attest,

SETH BARTLETT, *Grand Secretary.*

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

THE late Secretary of the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine having been removed by death, I do hereby appoint Comp. ELEAZER WYER, [L. S.] of Portland, to take possession of the papers and documents, together with the seal and other property belonging to that office, and to perform all its duties, *for the present time,* until a Grand Secretary shall be legally chosen in Comp. BARTLETT's stead.

Given under my hand and seal, at Wiscasset, this 13th day of June, A. D. 1827.

(Signed,) NATH'L COFFIN, *Grand High Priest.*

To ELEAZER WYER, *Secretary pro tempore of the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine.*

COMPANION:—You are hereby directed to notify the members of the Grand Chapter to meet at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on Wednesday, [L. S.] the first day of August next, at seven o'clock P. M., to choose a Secretary in place of E. Comp. BARTLETT, deceased, and to transact any other business which may regularly come before them.

Given under my hand and seal, at Wiscasset, this 13th day of June, A. D. 1827.

(Signed,) NATH'L COFFIN, *Grand High Priest.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

Agreeably to the foregoing commission and order, due notice having been given, a special communication of the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the first day of August, 1827, and organized as follows, viz:

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN, . . .	Grand High Priest.
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, . . .	" King *pro tem.*
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, . . .	" Scribe "
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, . . .	" Treasurer.
"	ELEAZER WYER, ...	" Secretary *pro tem.*
"	HORACE SEAVER, ...	" Marshal "
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS, . . .	" Sentinel.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, P. G. H. P., by M. E. Horace Seaver, his proxy.
M. E. Charles B. Smith, P. G. S.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon Chapter, by—
M. E. Eleazer Wyer, High Priest.
E. Oliver Gerrish, King.

Montgomery Chapter, by—
Comp. Nehemiah Cram, proxy of M. E. Andrew Heath, H. Priest.
Seth Clark, proxy of E. Jeremiah Ellsworth, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, by—
Comp. John L. Megquier, proxy of E. Warren Rice, King.

Jerusalem Chapter, by—
E. Samuel K. Gilman, King.

Several visitors were admitted.

The Grand Chapter being thus duly organized, the M. E. Grand High Priest made the following communication, viz:

Companions:—Since your meeting in January last, our worthy Companion, Seth Bartlett, Esq., has been removed by death. He died at Thomaston, on Thursday, the 8th of May, and was buried with masonic honors the Sabbath following. Those honors were paid him by the New Jerusalem Chapter, which then held its meetings in that town. The same Chapter has also expressed, in the most affectionate manner, the sympathies of the fraternity to his afflicted widow and family. Comp. Bartlett was, from the beginning of his masonic career to its close, "a zealous Brother," at all times ready and well skilled to perform any part of the work assigned him, and always devoted to the best interests of the Institution. He was temperate, prudent, patient and persevering; and his upright and regular deportment will render his memory among us pleasant. He has ceased from the labors and pleasures of earth, but has left us a well-grounded hope that he has entered upon higher employments and purer joys. His departure has rendered this meeting necessary, and after such other subjects are disposed of as may regularly come before us, I shall call your attention to the election of his successor.

A petition signed by nine regular Royal Arch Masons, resident in Saco and Biddeford, in the County of York, praying for a new Chapter to be holden at Saco, by the name of York Chapter, was then presented, read, and referred to E. Comp's

Joseph M. Gerrish, Oliver Gerrish, and Samuel K. Gilman, who, having considered the same, reported that the subject thereof be postponed to the next annual meeting; which report was accepted.

The report of the committee upon the subject of E. Comp. Grand Treasurer's donation, which had been postponed to this meeting, was taken up, and the further consideration thereof postponed to the annual meeting.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of a Grand Secretary to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of E. Comp. Seth Bartlett; and the ballots being received and counted, were declared to be unanimous for M. E. Charles B. Smith, who thereupon signified his acceptance, and was duly installed accordingly.

The minutes of the proceedings were then read and approved, and the Grand Chapter closed in due form.

Attest,

ELEAZER WYER, *G. Secretary pro tem.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1828.

The annual communication of the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on Tuesday, January 15, 1828, at six o'clock P. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	R. P. DUNLAP, P. G. H. P., . .	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" Scribe "
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, . . .	" Treasurer.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, . . .	" Secretary.
"	HORACE SEAVER, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, . . .	" Steward.
"	ZINA HYDE, ...	" "
Comp.	WM. STEVENS, ...	" Sentinel.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon Chapter, by—

M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, High Priest.
E. HORACE SEAVER, King.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER, Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter, by—

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, High Priest.

New Jerusalem Chapter, by—

E. BENJAMIN S. DEANE, Scribe.
Comp. MANLY HARDY, proxy of E. WARREN RICE, King.

Jerusalem Chapter, by—

Comp. HENRY W. FULLER, proxy of M. E. AMOS NOURSE, H. Priest.
STEPHEN LOVELL, proxy of E. JOSEPH CHANDLER, King.
DANIEL WADSWORTH, proxy of E. ANDREW MASTERS, Scribe.

Mount Moriah Chapter, by—

Comp. MOSES GREENLEAF, proxy of M. E. S. L. VALENTINE, H. Priest.

The Grand Chapter was then opened in due form, after which several Companions were admitted as visitors.

The records of the former meeting were then read and confirmed.

E. Comp's GERRISH and DEANE were then appointed a committee to examine the credentials offered, who, after attending to that service, reported that the several Companions presenting them were entitled to seats as representatives in this Grand Chapter.

On motion of M. E. Comp. DUNLAP, the petition of Comp. FREDERICK CLARK and others for a new Chapter at Saco was taken from the files and referred to M. E. Comp's DUNLAP, HYDE and DEANE.

On motion,

Ordered, That the committee appointed at a former meeting upon the resolutions offered by M. E. SAMUEL FESSENDEN, in relation to the establishment of a Charity Fund, be discharged; and that the subject thereof, together with the report of the committee upon the subject of the donation made by E. Comp. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, be referred to M. E. JAMES L. CHILD, and E. JOHN L. MEGQUIER and HENRY W. FULLER.

A communication was received from Mount Moriah Chapter, asking for a renewal of their dispensation, which was read and referred to E. Comp's SMITH, FULLER and RACKLYFT.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Comp. FREDERICK CLARK and others, praying for the establishment of a new Chapter at Saco, to be denominated York Chapter, reported "That the prayer thereof be so far granted as that a dispensation be made out and presented to them agreeably to the

provisions of the eighth article of the by-laws of this Grand Chapter"; which report was read and accepted, and a dispensation ordered to be made out accordingly.

On motion,

Voted, That the subject of the petition for a new Chapter at Eastport, be referred to E. Comp's SMITH, FULLER and RACKLYFT.

The Grand Treasurer then submitted his annual report of the receipts and expenditures for the year past, as follows, viz:

RECEIPTS.

Amount of balance in the Treasury at the last annual settlement,....		$312.02
" received from New Jerusalem Chapter, up to July 1, 1826,.....	$23.00	
" " from Mount Vernon Chapter, up to July 1, 1827,.....	47.50	
" " from Jerusalem Chapter, up to Jan. 1, 1828,..	42.00	
		112.50
Amount received for dispensation granted to Mount Moriah Chapter,		110.00
" " of M. E. Comp. Coffin, balance unexpended of the sum furnished him to pay expenses of attending the General Grand Chapter at New York,.....		26.51
Amount received of same for money overpaid for printing,.....		.75
Total amount of receipts,.....		$561.78

EXPENDITURES.

Amount paid M. E. Comp. Coffin to pay expenses of attending the General Grand Chapter at New York, as per vote of Grand Chapter,.....	100.00
Amount paid for postage, $3.05½; ditto for printing, $36.76,.....	39.81½
" " fifty diplomas and freight,.....	19.68¾
" " tyling the Grand Chapter,.....	5.50
" paid Comp. Bartlett's bill, as per vote of the Grand Chapter,	21.55
" " ditto his fees on two charters granted,.....	20.00
" " E. Comp. Child for services, as per vote of G. Chapter,	10.00
Total amount of expenditures,.....	$216.55¼

Which report was read and referred to the Committee of Finance, who, after duly examining the same, reported "That the several items composing the same were well vouched; and that there now remains in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the

sum of $345.23." Read and accepted, and ordered to be entered upon the records.

On motion,

Voted, That E. Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH, STEPHEN LOVELL and MOSES GREENLEAF be a committee to examine the foreign correspondence, and to report thereon at the adjournment of this meeting.

The following circular was laid before the Grand Chapter:

BALTIMORE, June 22, 1827.

M. E. G. Sir and Companion:

I am instructed by the Grand Chapter over which I have the honor to preside to address you, and through you your Grand Chapter, upon the unsettled state of the Degree of Select Mason—a subject deemed by us of sufficient importance to claim the particular attention of your Grand Chapter.

This degree existed under the authority of a distinguished chief in the State of Maryland, but without the recognizance of our Grand Chapter, for many years; until, in the year 1824, upon the revision of our Constitution, it appearing evident that the Select Degree not only has an intimate connection with, but is in a measure necessary, as preparatory to and elucidatory of, that of the Royal Arch, it was formally recognized by our Grand Chapter, and required to be given by our subordinate Chapters, in its proper order, immediately preceding that of the Royal Arch Under this arrangement we have since progressed, much to our satisfaction; but it is with regret that we have learned that Councils or Chapters of Select Masons have been established in some of our sister States *independent of Royal Arch Masonry,* avowedly in pursuance of, but, as we are satisfied, through a great mistake or actual abuse of any authority delegated, or meant to be delegated, in relation to the Select Degree. We would therefore beg leave respectfully to recommend to your Grand Chapter the consideration of this degree, and the circumstances under which it exists, if it does exist, within your jurisdiction, with the hope that you will see it to be for the general interest of the Craft to take the said degree under your recognizance and control, to whom of right it belongs, and thereby do away what is felt to be a grievance by those distinguished chiefs, whose authority, delegated to a limited extent and for special reasons, has been perverted for sordid purposes by the creation of an independent Order never contemplated by them, and which we believe to be inconsistent with the spirit and best interests of our Institution.

Respectfully and fraternally,

Your most obedient servant,

[L. S.] JOS. K. STAPLETON.

TH. PHENIX, *Grand Secretary.*

On motion,

Voted, That the Circular from the Grand Chapter of Maryland, in relation to the Select degree, be referred to the M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, ROBERT P. DUNLAP and JAMES L. CHILD.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of its officers for the ensuing year; when E. Comp's MEGQUIER, HYDE and DEANE having been appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for that purpose, reported that the following M. E. and E. Companions were duly elected, viz:

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN, of Wiscasset,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	JAMES L. CHILD, of Alna,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	SIMON GREENLEAF, of Portland,	*Grand King.*
"	AMOS NOURSE, of Hallowell,	" *Scribe.*
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, of Portland,	" *Secretary.*

On motion of M. E. Comp. CHILD,

Resolved, That the installation of the officers elect of this Grand Chapter be postponed until Thursday evening next, at six o'clock, and that M. E. JONATHAN GREENLEAF, the senior Grand Chaplain, be requested to deliver an Address on the occasion. Also—

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be requested to invite the attendance, on that occasion, of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, together with such other officers and members of the Grand Lodge, and of Lodges under its jurisdiction, as may please to accompany him; and also all such Royal Arch Masons as may be desirous of witnessing the ceremonies of the evening.

Ordered, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it be till to-morrow evening at six o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest,

CHARLES B. SMITH, *G. Secretary.*

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16, 1828.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	Grand King *pro tem.*
"	JONA. GREENLEAF, ...	" Scribe "
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" Secretary.
E. & Rev.	STEPHEN LOVELL, ...	" Chaplain *pro tem.*
E.	HORACE SEAVER, ...	" Marshal "
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Steward.
"	ZINA HYDE, ...	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Sentinel.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

MOUNT VERNON,	JERUSALEM,
NEW JERUSALEM,	MOUNT MORIAH.

Several Companions were admitted as visitors.

The following report was then made, which was read and accepted, viz:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Mount Moriah Chapter, at Bangor, and the subject of the petition of LEBBEUS BAILEY, JR., and others, for a new Chapter at Eastport, reported:

That they had attended to the subjects referred to them, and upon the petition of Mount Moriah Chapter, recommend that, inasmuch as the said petitioners have but recently received their dispensation, which was granted in January last, and which has now expired, thereby leaving them no authority under which they can legally work, or by which they can make the necessary arrangements preparatory to their installation and consecration, their dispensation be renewed to be in force one year from the present communication of this Grand Chapter.

And upon the subject of the petition of LEBBEUS BAILEY, JR., and others, that they find that in January last their petition was preferred to this Grand Chapter, when it was decided that the prayer thereof be granted on condition that the petitioners cause to be filed with the Grand Secretary a certificate from New Jerusalem Chapter or Jerusalem Chapter, vouching for the moral character and masonic abilities of the petitioners, which certificate appears to have been filed accordingly—and a dispensation was made out, to be in

force twelve calendar months from the tenth day of February last; that the petitioners, prior to July last, had notice that the same was duly made out and ready for them when called for, but that the said dispensation has never been called for, and now remains on the files of this Grand Chapter. Under these circumstances the committee feel disposed to view the apparent neglect of these petitioners in the most favorable light, and for that purpose submit the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand High Priest be requested, on application therefor at any time in the course of the year, to renew the dispensation for a Chapter at Eastport, to be in force till the next annual meeting of this Grand Chapter, provided he shall be satisfied that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this State will be thereby promoted.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence then made the following report, which was read and accepted, viz:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report: That printed Proceedings have been received from the Grand Chapters of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky and Maryland; and circulars from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, in relation to the dissolution of the General Grand Chapter; from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, with an impression of their seal and the signatures of their Grand Officers; from Comp. Jeremy L. Cross, of Connecticut, in relation to the publication of a history of masonry; from the General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, in relation to a uniform general Diploma; together with a copy of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, and a copy of the Diploma of the Grand Chapter of Maryland. That they have carefully examined these several communications and bestowed upon the principal subjects therein contained all the attention which the limited time allowed them would permit; and while these communications afford evidence of the prosperous condition of Royal Arch Masonry in various parts of our country, the committee discover nothing in any of them which, in their opinion, requires any special order of this Grand Chapter, unless it be a resolution of the Grand Chapter of Maryland in relation to the Select Degree, which subject, having been specially referred to another committee, we deem it unnecessary to notice further in this report.

In examining these documents, the committee discover other subjects which appear to have been regarded as important in the Grand Chapters where they originated. In the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina we find a resolution, by them adopted, that "no Royal Arch Mason shall in future be allowed to visit any subordinate Chapter under their jurisdiction unless he shall furnish the Committee of Examination a certificate from some legally constituted Grand Chapter, or shall be avouched for by two or more members

of the Chapter he is about to visit," and recommending the adoption of the same measures in other Grand Chapters. To this, as well as to a circular from the General Grand Secretary in relation to a uniform general Diploma, the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts have replied that "they are of opinion that the course hitherto pursued by them has proved to be a judicious one, and that it is inexpedient to adopt any new regulations upon those subjects."

In relation to the circular from the General Grand Secretary, before alluded to, upon the subject of a uniform general Diploma, the committee believe that the adoption of a measure of this kind would be attended with trouble and expense, without affording advantages equivalent thereto; and this Grand Chapter having already, at considerable expense, procured a plate from which Diplomas have been stricken and used in this State, the committee are of opinion that they are amply sufficient for every *masonic* purpose for which a Diploma ought to be used.

With regard to the circular from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, relative to the dissolution of the General Grand Chapter, the committee are of opinion that, inasmuch as the subject has heretofore been laid before this Grand Chapter and duly considered therein, as well as in the General Grand Chapter, it is unnecessary, at this time, to take any further order thereon.

All which is respectfully submitted,

(Signed,) Per order, C. B. SMITH, *Chairman.*

The following report was then submitted, viz:

The committee to whom was referred the circular letter issued by order of the Grand Chapter of Maryland in relation to the degree of Select Mason, have attended to that subject, and also the proceedings of that Grand Chapter concerning it, and report:

That so far as they are able, at this time, to learn, no obstacle will be presented to the measure, should this Grand Chapter resolve to take under its care and protection all masonic secrets connected with, or elucidatory of, the Royal Arch degree, not already under the control of the Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment, and to authorize its subordinate Chapters to communicate them in regular form upon the meritorious, and for such suitable fees in aid of the Charity Fund as shall be proper. They are also of opinion that such a measure would prevent the illicit communication of such secrets by irresponsible individuals, and tend greatly to promote the cause of benevolence, in which all masons are engaged. They accordingly recommend that a committee be now appointed to consult with such Royal Arch Masons and Councils of Royal and Select Masters as are already in possession of the secrets alluded to, and if they find it practicable, without infringing upon the rights of other masonic bodies, to report, as soon as may be, such measures as may be necessary to accomplish this object.

(Signed,) NATH'L COFFIN, *per order.*

Which report was read and accepted, and M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, JAMES L. CHILD and JOHN H. SHEPPARD were appointed a committee for the purpose therein expressed.

M. E. ELEAZER WYER being absent, E. Comp. ZINA HYDE was appointed on the Committee of Finance for the present time.

The following report was then made by the committee appointed upon that subject, viz:

The committee to whom was referred the Preamble and Resolution offered by M. E. Comp. FESSENDEN, at the communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter held at Bath, July 14, 1826, in relation to the establishment of a fund "for the education of the children of Companion Royal Arch Masons in those arts and sciences which, under the smiles of Providence, may train them for usefulness and happiness:" and also the report of the committee "on the disposal of the donation from our E. Comp. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Grand Treasurer," having deliberated upon the subject committed to them, report:

That it is expedient and highly necessary that this Grand Chapter should be possessed of a Charity Fund, to enable them to meet the calls of benevolence that may deserve the helping hand of the fraternity.

That the liberal donation of our E. Comp. GERRISH be applied as the foundation of such a fund, and that the Rules and Regulations herewith submitted be adopted for its government.

Per order,

(Signed,) JAMES L. CHILD, *Chairman.*

RULES AND REGULATIONS

For the government of the Charity Fund of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.

ART. 1. There shall be a Charity Fund established by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, which shall be from time to time increased by adding thereto *ten dollars* for each and every charter granted and paid for; *five dollars* for each dispensation for removing a Chapter; *one-third* part of all *moneys* received into the Treasury for the exaltation of candidates by subordinate Chapters; *one-half* of all *moneys* remaining in the Treasury at every annual communication, over and above the debts due from the Grand Chapter; and also all accruing interest, until the principal of the fund shall amount to five hundred dollars.

ART. 2. The Charity Fund shall be under the direction of the first four officers of the Grand Chapter, together with the Grand Secretary, who shall invest the accruing Charity Fund in such manner as they shall deem most

safe and productive. And no part of the principal of said fund shall be expended, at any time, or for any purpose whatever, nor shall any part of the interest be appropriated otherwise than is expressed in Article 1, until the principal of said fund shall amount to the sum of five hundred dollars.

Art. 3. After the principal of said fund shall amount to the aforesaid sum, the interest arising annually thereon shall be appropriated by the Trustees to such objects of masonic benevolence and charity as may be directed by the Grand Chapter; but all interest unappropriated at the annual meeting of the Trustees shall be added to the principal.

Art. 4. The Trustees shall meet on the afternoon of the day of the annual meeting of the Grand Chapter, and oftener if deemed necessary.

Art. 5. The Grand Secretary shall be Secretary of the Board of Trustees, and it shall be his duty to keep a record of their proceedings in a book kept for that purpose, and report the same, together with a statement of the funds, to the Grand Chapter at every annual meeting.

Which report was read and accepted; and the said Rules and Regulations being duly considered, were adopted.

The Committee of Finance reported that there be allowed and paid to the Grand Treasurer for his services up to the present time the sum of $15; and that there be allowed and paid to the Grand Secretary for his services up to the present time the sum of $10, which report was read and accepted.

E. Comp. Joseph M. Gerrish, the Grand Treasurer, then presented the sum of $15, allowed him by the foregoing report, to be added to the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter; whereupon, on motion,

Voted, That this donation be accepted, and that the thanks of the Grand Chapter be presented to E. Comp. Joseph M. Gerrish for this renewed instance of his liberality.

E. Comp. Amos Nourse's account of receipts and expenditures, while Grand Secretary, was then presented and referred to the Committee of Finance.

M. E. Comp. Simon Greenleaf then communicated to the Grand Chapter his thanks for the kind expression of esteem and confidence manifested in electing him to the office of Grand King, but informed them that his avocations were such as rendered it inconvenient for him to accept that office.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of a Grand King, when E. Comp's DEANE and HYDE, having been appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for that purpose, reported that M. E. AMOS NOURSE, of Hallowell, was duly elected.

By this election the office of Grand Scribe being vacated, the same committee were directed to receive, sort and count the votes for a Grand Scribe, who reported that M. E. HORACE SEAVER, of Portland, was duly elected to that office.

The Grand High Priest then announced from the Chair the following appointments for the ensuing year, viz:

E. & Rev.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	ASA MEAD, of Brunswick,	"	"
"	REUBEN NASON, of Gorham,	"	"
"	SENECA WHITE, of Bath,	"	"
E.	ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough,	"	*Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	ZINA HYDE, of Bath,	"	"
"	JOEL MILLER, of St. George,	"	"
"	DANIEL WADSWORTH, of Hallowell,	"	"
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	"	*Sentinel.*

Committee of Finance:

M. E. HORACE SEAVER, JOHN L. MEGQUIER, NELSON RACKLYFT.

The Grand Chapter was then adjourned till to-morrow evening at six o'clock.

Attest,

CHARLES B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 1828.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES FOX, ...	" King *pro tem.*
"	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	" Scribe "

M. E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, . . .	Grand Treasurer.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, . . .	" Secretary.
E. & Rev.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, . .	" Chaplain.
"	HORACE SEAVER, ...	" Marshal *pro tem.*
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, . . .	" Steward.
"	ZINA HYDE, ...	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS, . . .	" Sentinel.

Comp. Amos H. Hodgman appeared this evening as proxy of M. E. John H. Sheppard, High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter.

Several Companions were admitted as visitors.

The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine having accepted the invitation of this Grand Chapter to be present on this occasion, accompanied by other officers and members of the Grand Lodge, and of Lodges under their jurisdiction, was then announced. E. Comp's Gerrish and Deane were appointed a committee to receive them, and they were accordingly introduced in due form.

The M. E. Grand High Priest now welcomed the M.W. Grand Master and the Brethren accompanying him, in a suitable address, and expressed his felicitations on the occasion of these two Grand Masonic Bodies being convened for the purpose of attending to the solemn ceremonies of the evening, which sentiments were duly reciprocated by the M. W. Grand Master.

A fervent and impressive prayer was then addressed to the Throne of Grace, by E. and Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, senior Grand Chaplain, which was followed by a piece of sacred music performed by the Brethren and Companions present.

E. and Rev. Comp. Greenleaf then delivered the following discourse, which was listened to with great attention and satisfaction by all who heard it.

DISCOURSE.

In casting the eye abroad to select a topic for discussion on this occasion, a most ample field opens before us, but it is a field which has been already explored. Scarce a subject can be named, connected in the most distant

manner with masonry, which has not been made the theme of discourse on some public occasion. The field, though wide, is covered with trodden paths, and he who looks for novelty in a masonic address at this late day, will look in vain.

There are subjects, however, really and truly masonic subjects, which never need to tire a benevolent mind; subjects on which the thoughts may rest with satisfaction, which may be repeated without becoming irksome, and when often dwelt upon may serve only to excite the mind to noble needs.

To guide our meditations on this occasion, I have selected a portion of Holy Scripture as a theme. It is contained in Paul's Epistle to the Galatians, 6th chapter, 10th verse: "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men."

In matchless wisdom, God has established a nice gradation among the creatures he has made, and taught us to view them mounting upward from matter to mind, and to consider creation as a regularly connected chain, advancing gradually from the inanimate mass to the brute, and thence to man, and from him to angels. Hence, among other truths, we are taught the dependence of one thing on another. As we look on our own species we behold a vast variety. Some are poor, some are rich; some are happy, and some are exceedingly miserable. God has ordered it so for wise and holy purposes, but very probably with the intention that one should be dependent on another, that the strong should help the weak, and thus that all should feel themselves to be parts of each other. Hence the force of the exhortation of the Apostle in the text: "*As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men.*" The duty here enjoined is binding upon all men, but I believe it can be shown to be a duty more pressing upon masons than upon any others. For—

1. The masonic institution professes to be one of the most expansive benevolence. Were we to enquire at the mouth of a mason of any rank, concerning the nature of the institution, we should be told that benevolence is its grand characteristic. If we peruse masonic charters, and books of constitution, the same description is uniformly given, and benevolence will stand as the most prominent feature. In every public address made on any masonic occasion, the benevolence of the order is one of the most fruitful themes. And when, as it sometimes happens, masons are called on to defend the order against the attacks of its enemies, or have occasion to wipe away the aspersions so often thrown upon it, they will recount what masonry hath done. They will tell of the tears of sorrow wiped away, of the poor imprisoned debtor released, of the orphan who has found friends and a home, and of the widow's heart made to sing for joy. Thus highly urged are the claims of the masonic institution, and thus is benevolence, in some of its most engaging forms, declared to be its leading virtue.

2. Masons profess to be guided by no sectional or party feelings. Their field of operations is the world. The principles of action which they avow

are of the most liberal kind. Men of every nation and clime, of every kindred and tongue, share alike in their benevolence. No political dissentions, nor difference of religious belief, ever prevent them from dealing their bread to the hungry, or their clothing to the naked, ever prevent them from relieving the houseless child of want, or giving to the stranger that which his necessities require. Contentions between nations, and even a state of actual war, hinder not those good offices which masons perform. In profession at least, they look eastward and westward, and northward and southward, and bring together for relief the wants of the world. Thus diffusive is their benevolence, and thus widely extended their sphere of operations.

3. Masonic Bodies are in possession of ample resources to enable them to do much good. In almost every civilized land throughout the world masonic societies are found*—in many countries they are numerous; and where free governments and equal rights bless the people, masonry, like every other benevolent institution, flourishes, and spreads abroad its genial influence. With every organized body of masons, whether of the higher or lower degrees, a fund is deposited, to be sacredly appropriated to those various deeds of benevolence which bless the world, and meliorate the woes incident to a lapsed and fallen state. In almost every considerable village throughout our own country a masonic establishment is found, and in our larger towns and cities there are many, comprising every grade. In all probability the present number of regularly chartered masonic bodies in the United States exceeds 2,000, including perhaps 50,000 or 60,000 members. The amount of funds cannot be ascertained with precision. Some of those bodies are immensely rich; some of them may be considered wealthy; and all have something. These funds, deposited as they are in every town of note in the land, held sacred to benevolent uses, and under the control of those whose grand motto is "good will to men," show beyond question that masons possess resources and means of benevolence which the providence of God has denied to many others.

4. Masons possess some advantages for doing good over others, even where pecuniary means are alike. They are already organized, they possess a common language, whereby masons of every clime are recognized as brethren, they have strict laws of discipline; and the Institution throughout the world is like some mighty machine, in which every wheel and pin is a necessary part, contributing to the perfect and orderly motion of the whole. It will be at once perceived that thereby their communication with each other is greatly facilitated. Their bond of union is one, their professed object is one, their moral precepts are the same—one sentiment only would move them. Let the object stated be one of pure benevolence, let it distinctly appear that to do

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*It has sometimes been asserted that masonic societies existed in uncivilized and heathen countries, but facts recently disclosed by means of a correspondence of a committee of the Grand Lodge of Maine prove that masonic bodies, as such, are known only in civilized countries.

good, either to the bodies or to the souls of men, without respect to nation, kindred or tongue, is the intent, and every mason who acts consistently with his principles is bound to put forth his hand. In this respect masonic bodies possess an advantage over every other combination on earth; for should they allow themselves to be guided by narrow or sectarian prejudices, should they refuse to aid a benevolent work from the influence of party views, they must be guided by other principles than those of masonry, they must forget their high obligations and prove to the world that they are masons only in name, while the true spirit of their principles is wholly overlooked.

5. Masons profess to have more light than others. Not unfrequently their professions on this point are very high, inasmuch that we should be ready to conclude that no small degree of self-complacency was creeping in, while a comparison was making in the mind between the light which masonry bestows and the darkness of the uninitiated. An idea prevails to some extent in the world, and is carefully fostered by masons themselves, that under the external decorations which we assume in public, the ceremonies we perform, and the peculiar emblems we assign to each degree, important mysteries are concealed. I do not design here to enter into a discussion of the merits of this question, whether the pretensions to superior light which masons make are or are not well founded, but am proceeding on the well-known fact that they lay claim to more light than falls to the share of the world around. If these pretensions are true, and masons know whether they are true, then surely they, of all men, should be most forward in doing good, and should ever be found in the front rank when any benevolent scheme was in operation. Light and knowledge increases responsibility, for where much is given much will undoubtedly be required, and to whom men have committed much, of them will they ask the more; and when we consider that in all probability men will be judged according to the light they have, the conclusion is irresistible that if masons possess more light than others they must be more active than others in doing good, or meet a deeper doom.

Surely, my brethren, it must follow that masons, belonging as they do to an Institution whose most prominent motto is benevolence—masons who, in bestowing favors, profess to know no party, sect or name; who have the most ample resources for doing good; who possess some advantages over every other benevolent institution; and who, to crown the whole, profess to have more light than the world around—it must follow that such are under special obligations in every good work.

After the considerations now stated are duly weighed, it may perhaps be asked wherein masons may engage in benevolent operations with the fairest prospects of success. They do already disperse abroad their charities in feeding the hungry, in clothing the naked, in supporting the orphan and assisting the widow; in restoring the poor imprisoned debtor to his family, and relieving the stranger when cast upon our shores.

All this is well, and the obligation to perform these deeds is clearly understood, and suitably regarded. But a new era has arrived; a new scene of things is opening upon the earth; new channels are prepared, connected with the great river of benevolence as tributary streams, flowing to the same grand ocean, and "making glad the city of God." A light is preparing to beam upon the world, which will as far transcend the light of masonry as the blaze of the sun, shining in his strength, exceeds the feeble twinkling of the most remote star. The glorious gospel of the blessed God is destined to fill the world, and the sun of righteousness will shortly dart his life-giving beams to the remotest parts of the earth. But much is first to be accomplished. Many fair portions of the earth are still covered with almost impenetrable darkness. In many countries the light of revelation has never shone, and the people are grossly ignorant of all that can refine or ennoble the soul. Science has never enlarged their intellect, or polished their manners, nor has religion ever taught them to raise their hearts devoutly to God, or to look beyond the grave with a hope full of immortality. The holy Apostle thus describes those who were ignorant of the Gospel: "Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness: full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful." Had Paul been describing heathen nations as they now are, he could not have been more accurate. The picture is not too highly colored. No crime can be named which is not common in pagan lands, and although there is vastly too much wickedness in Christian countries, yet here the early education of men, the laws of the land, some pious examples, and, I should add, masonic precepts and institutions, form a powerful restraint upon the wickedness of the heart which might otherwise break forth. But in heathen countries no such restraint exists, and all the corrupt propensities of fallen nature burst out, like some furious torrent, which, without a barrier, sweeps over every opposing mound, and deluges a whole country. Whatever we value in moral conduct, as it respects ourselves, as it respects others, or as it regards the well-being of society; whatever among men is true, is honest, is just, is pure, is lovely, and of good report, we owe it all, either directly or indirectly, to the influence of that revelation which God hath made. If this assertion is doubted by any one, let a close inspection be made of heathenism, let a minute investigation take place, and a fair comparison be made between the state of those who have the Gospel and those who have it not. We may look upon heathen countries; they are pleasant; they are delightful without; they perhaps charm the eye; but the beauty of virtue is unknown in them. Their mountains may be bold and lofty, rearing their summits as if to inspect the transactions of the clouds, or contend with the spirits of the storm; the verdure of their hills may be uncommonly bright, while their variegated attitudes and peculiar forms display

at once magnificence and beauty; their sloping vales, like the verdant avenues of some vast garden, may wind through colonnades of hills and mountains, where an endless variety of prospect will invite the eye to rove with wonder or rest with delight; while their springs, and their brooks, and their rivers, dashing from the hills or winding through the vales, may complete the enchanting scenery. But a closer inspection will show that fair exterior to be but a whited sepulchre. The foulest crimes are there perpetrated in the light of the sun, and this apparent Eden is a mere charnel house; a place of graves, where souls are buried to rise no more. For all our hopes of eternal salvation we are indebted to the Bible. Paganism lights up for a moment a frightful glare, like some meteor in the heavens, which presently expires and leaves the soul in darkness more profound; while Christianity's beam, like the shining light, shineth brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. Would we know the prospects of a heathen concerning the world to come, let us for a moment in fancy stand by his dying bed. The prospects of this world are obscured, Death has laid his cold hand upon him, the blood flows slowly around his veins, a cumbrous load is at his heart, and nature exhausted is about to give up the ghost. Ask him concerning his future prospects, and he is involved in doubt. Perhaps a fancied elysium is before him, where all his impurities will bear him company; or what is more probable, the darkest conjectures only guide his wandering mind. Of a heaven of purity he is wholly ignorant. The name of Jesus he never heard. Thus he launches from the shores of time, and knows nothing of the eternal God who made him until he stands before his dread tribunal. The short line of this life bounds the prospect of the pagan, but, aided by the lively oracles of divine truth, the Christian can stretch his eye "beyond the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills," until he can see the clouds dispersing and the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven. Is it any favor to know with certainty our final destination? Is it any satisfaction to have assured knowledge of future peace? Is it any advantage to possess that new nature which makes the soul like God, and prepares it for heavenly glory? We are indebted for the whole to that revelation of himself which God has made. The miserable heathen are destitute of all these blessings, because they are destitute of those sacred oracles which bring them to view. Ought not masons in a peculiar sense to compassionate their case? The benighted pagans are now, in the providence of God, brought as candidates to our doors. They are ignorant, and ask for teaching; they are in darkness, and ask for light. They are suitable recipients of our bounty, they are duly and truly prepared, and many are found to avouch for them and testify to their necessities. Is there any way in which masons can do more good than to minister to the spiritual wants of their fellow men? Will any say this is not truly masonic charity? What can be more so? Do we not make high pretensions to be sons of light? Do we not call the Bible our "great light," and carry it out before the world on all public occasions as "a light to our feet and a lamp to our paths"? Do we not claim it as the great charter on which we work,

under the broad seal of Heaven? Surely, then, we are bound to use our efforts to dispense this best of gifts to the remotest quarters of the world. Though all the rest of the world should slumber, yet masons should never rest while a single nation remains in darkness, while an individual can be found on earth who knows not God and obeys not the Gospel. The immense funds collected by masonic bodies are intended to meliorate every form of human woe. The most ready way to effect this is to impart to men the blessings of salvation. It is well to deal our bread to the hungry around us, but it is of far greater consequence to labor for the conversion of their souls. To extend our views to the millions of benighted pagans, and to devise and carry into successful operation some scheme to rescue their souls from wrath and ruin, is an enterprise well worthy the attention of men of the most exalted minds. This is the best way to do good, whether we have regard to this world or the world to come. Give men the Gospel, give them the word of God in their own tongue, and teach them to read it, and with this blessing you give them also civil government, equitable laws, equal rights, Christian institutions, and all the varied and multiplied blessings of civil society. You convey to their children the benefits of education, you polish their manners, you refine their minds, you open to them the rich treasures of knowledge, and pour upon them blessings which shall pass down through generation after generation to the last moment of time; and if to this be added the hope of heaven which the Gospel reveals, and the eternal salvation which Christ bestows on the penitent; if we glance our eye at that long eternity of blessedness which awaits the converted pagan, all the labor and all the treasure expended in this work will seem well applied. Let us arise, then, my brethren, for this work belongs to us, and no longer let the uninitiated go before us in the noble work of enlightening a darkened world. As Royal Arch Masons we are under peculiar obligations. If we may credit our traditions, this order owes its origin to the building of the second temple, when Zerubbabel and his pious companions were enabled to raise up the desolations of former generations, and re-establish the worship of Jehovah in its purity. This was a work worthy indeed of the attention of masons. It was so then, it is equally so now. In a great proportion of the world the spiritual temple of God is in ruins. Worthy Companions, let us arise and build the temple of God; let us repair these desolations, and set an example in this work, not to the world only, but to masons of other degrees, and rest not until the head-stone thereof shall be brought forth with shoutings, crying grace, grace unto it.

After which the M. E. Grand High Priest appointed E. Comp. Deane Grand Marshal, for the present time.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then proceeded to install, in due and ancient form, the following Grand Officers for the ensuing year, viz:

M. E.	JAMES L. CHILD, of Alna,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	HORACE SEAVER, of Portland,	*Grand Scribe.*
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, of Portland,	" *Secretary.*
Rev. & E.	JONATHAN GREENLEAF, of Wells,	" *Chaplain.*
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	" *Steward.*
"	ZINA HYDE, of Bath,	" "
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	" *Tyler.*

The other Grand Officers elect being absent, their installation was postponed.

The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, together with the Brethren accompanying him, then retired, in the same respectful order in which they were introduced.

On motion of M. E. Comp. CHILD,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be presented to E. and Rev. Comp. JONA. GREENLEAF for the excellent, interesting and appropriate discourse delivered by him on this occasion; and that he be requested to furnish a copy thereof to be placed upon the files of this Grand Chapter; and that a copy of the same, or such extracts as he may select therefrom, be forwarded for publication in the Masonic Mirror.

On motion,

Voted, That M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, JAMES L. CHILD and JOHN H. SHEPPARD be a committee to prepare a suitable form of a charter, and to procure to be stricken off a suitable number of blanks of the same, for the use of this Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a suitable number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, not already published, for distribution, as is customary.

The minutes of the proceedings at this annual communication were then read and approved; and the Grand Chapter was closed in due form.

Attest,

CHAS. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND CANDIDATES

OF

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON R. A. CHAPTER—PORTLAND.

OFFICERS.

M. E.	CHARLES B. SMITH,	High Priest.
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT,	King.
"	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	Scribe.
Comp.	NEHEMIAH CRAM,	Treasurer.
"	WILLIAM LORD,	Secretary.
"	SETH BIRD,	R. A. Captain.
"	OLIVER B. DORRANCE,	C. H.
"	DAVID BURBANK,	P. S.
"	LUTHER RICHARDSON,	G. M. V.
"	THOMAS DODGE,	"
"	EBENEZER SEAVER,	"
"	WILLIAM STEVENS,	Tyler.

MEMBERS.

M. E. James D. Hopkins, Charles Fox, William Swan, Arthur Shirley, Horace Seaver and Eleazer Wyer, Past High Priests.

Comp's Joseph M. Gerrish, Joseph Harrod, John P. Boyd, Nathan Nutter, Stephen Swett, M. McNeil Burdick, Dexter Brewer, Alpheus Shaw, Daniel Mountfort, Samuel Fessenden, Oliver S. Hartshorn, David Jones, Jr., James Alden, Amos Nichols, James Chadburn, David Stackpole, Samuel Soule, Edward Kelleran, James C. Churchill, Daniel Garland, Samuel Davis, John Wildrage, John Merrill, M. D., Ebenezer Libby, John Leach, Perez Drinkwater, Moses Smith, Thomas O. Bradley, Moses Davis, Salathiel Sweetsir, Charles C. Collins.

CANDIDATES EXALTED SINCE JULY 1, 1826.

Charles C. Collins, Oliver B. Dorrance, Asa H. Seavey, Samuel B. Stevens, Reuel Washburn, Benj. Bradford, Paschal Brooks, John L. Megquier, George Small, Samuel L. Valentine, David J. Bent, Joshua W. Carr, Nathaniel Hulze, Levi L. Totman, Jeremiah Martin.

MONTGOMERY R. A. CHAPTER—Bath.

OFFICERS.

M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, ... High Priest.

[Returns from this Chapter not having been received since their annual election, a full list of its Officers, &c., is necessarily omitted.]

NEW JERUSALEM R. A. CHAPTER—Wiscasset and Thomaston.

OFFICERS.

M. E.	John H. Sheppard, ...	High Priest.
E.	Warren Rice, ...	King.
"	Benjamin S. Dean, ...	Scribe.
Comp.	Ezekiel Cutter, ...	Treasurer.
"	Henry Clark, ...	Secretary.
"	Eben. Hilton	R. A. Captain.
"	Thos. Brintnell, ...	C. H.
"	Asa F. Hall, ...	P. S.
"	John Dole, ...	G. M. V.
"	Nathan Clark, ...	"
"	William Smith, ...	"
"	James Taylor, ...	Tyler.

MEMBERS.

M. E. Comp's Nathaniel Coffin, Abiel Wood, Erastus Foote, John H. Ingraham, Past High Priests.

Comp's David Otis, Thos. McCrate, John B. Mange, William M. Boyd, Barnabas Hedge, Alonzo King, Gershom F. Cox, Winthrop Morse, John Atwell, Freeman Parker, Samuel Johnson, James Gilmore, John Miller, James G. Lord, Ephraim Perry, Samuel Kidder, Halsey Healey, Samuel C. Counce, William Cole, Avery Rawson, Virgil H. Hewes, Charles Holmes,

Charles Harrington, Dimon Furnell, Samuel Heal, Oliver Fales, John O'Brien, Barnabas Webb, Thomas Hodgman, John B. Amesbury, William Groton, Stoddard Bosworth, Samuel W. Clark, Jonas G. Brooks, Moses Shaw, Richard Robinson, Noyes P. Hawes, Isaac G. Reed, Joel Miller, William Battie, Thomas Arnold, John Balch, Edward Breck, George Robinson, Barden T. Levenseller, Moses Copeland, John Spear, Jr., Amos H. Hodgman, Edward Robinson, Elisha Green, David Tolman, Edward Weston, Duncan McCullurn, John Andrews, William Bickford, Robert McLean, Philip E. Theobald, Aaron Young, Oliver Amesbury, Payn Elwell, Jacob Goodwin, John D. McCrate.

CANDIDATES EXALTED SINCE JULY 1, 1826.

John Spear, Jr., Amos H. Hodgman, Edward Robinson, Elisha Green, David Tolman, Edward Weston, Duncan McCullurn, John Andrews, William Bickford, John D. McCrate, Rev. Winthrop Morse, Rev. Samuel Johnson.

JERUSALEM R. A. CHAPTER—Hallowell.

OFFICERS.

M. E.	Amos Nourse,	High Priest.
E.	Joseph Chandler,	King.
"	Andrew Masters,	Scribe.
Comp.	K. G. Robinson,	Treasurer.
"	William Morse, Jr.,	Secretary.
"	J. K. Gilman,	R. A. Captain.
"	D. Wadsworth,	C. H.
"	Stephen Lovell,	P. S.
"	B. Weeks,	G. M. V.
"	E. Fuller,	"
"	J. B. Walton,	"
"	R. Gardiner,	Steward.
"	Stephen Lord,	"
"	Ira Cass,	Tyler.

MEMBERS.

M. E. Comp's Lawrence Sprague, E. T. Warren, Ariel Mann, Jesse Robinson, Past High Priests.

Peleg Sprague, Oliver Beal, Warren Preston, John Barstow, Isaac Gage, Gideon Farrell, Alvan Heywood, Daniel Campbell, Oliver Colborn, Ebenezer White, Moses Whitten, Thomas Dennis, William Bowen, D. W. Pierce, Jos. Y. Gray, Jedediah Herrick, Peter Vigoureux, Daniel Chessman.

CANDIDATES EXALTED SINCE JULY 1, 1826.

Jonas Parlin, Jr., Abraham Wyman, Caleb Leavitt, Rev. John Butler, Rev. Jedediah B. Prescott, Seth May, Charles H. Pierpont, James Bowman, Ira Cass, John G. Niel, Rev. Peter Burgess, Rev. Ezekiel Robinson.

MOUNT MORIAH R. A. CHAPTER—Bangor. (New.)

OFFICERS.

M. E.	Samuel L. Valentine,	High Priest.
E.	William D. Williamson,	King.
"	Gorham Parks,	Scribe.
Comp.	Eben. Greenleaf,	R. A. Captain.
"	Cyrus Brown,	C. H.
"	John Brown,	P. S.
"	Amos Tappan,	Treasurer.
"	A. A. Dillingham,	Secretary.

MEMBERS.

Comp's Moses Greenleaf, Jedediah Herrick, Wm. Frost, David Sheppard, Ebenezer Davis.

YORK R. A. CHAPTER—Saco. (New.)

OFFICERS.

M. E.	Frederick Clark,	High Priest.
E.	James B. Thornton,	King.
"	Luke Whitney,	Scribe.

MEMBERS.

Comp's Edward S. Moulton, Josiah Beard, Rufus Nichols, Stephen Fairfield, Henry S. Smith, Jacob Marston, John M. Spring, Robert Patterson, John C. Dunlevie.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A special communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Saco, on the evening of October 15, 1828, agreeably to previous public notice, and organized as follows, viz:

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN,	Grand High Priest.
"	HORACE SEAVER,	Dep. Gr. H. Priest, *p. t.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	Grand King, "
"	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	" Scribe, "
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" Treasurer.
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" Secretary, *p. t.*
E. & Rev.	R. NASON,	" Chaplain.
"	S. JOHNSON,	" " *p. t.*
E.	O. B. DORRANCE,	" Marshal, "
"	ASA H. SEAVEY,	Banner Bearer.
"	MOSES SMITH,	Grand Steward, *p. t.*
"	G. L. DARLING,	" " "
"	WM. STEVENS,	" Tyler.

The following commission from the Grand High Priest, together with the report thereon, were read and approved, and ordered to be entered upon the record, viz:

"To M. E. Comp's HORACE SEAVER, JOHN L. MEGQUIER, and NELSON RACKLYFT:

"Reposing full confidence in your wisdom and skill, I appoint you a committee to examine the members of York Chapter, now working at Saco under a dispensation of the State Grand Chapter, with regard to their ability to perform the duties required of them.

"You will make your report to me, in Grand Chapter at Saco, on the 15th inst., so that, if found worthy, their Chapter may be publicly consecrated and their officers installed, according to my appointment already made.

"Wiscasset, Oct. 8, 1828. NATHANIEL COFFIN, *G. H. Priest.*"

"To M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, *Grand High Priest of the G. R. A. Chapter of the State of Maine:*

"The committee appointed 'to examine the members of York Chapter, now working under a dispensation of this State Grand Chapter, with regard to their ability to perform the duties required of them,' respectfully report:

"That they have attended to the service assigned them, and that they are satisfied with regard to the ability of the members of York Chapter to perform the duties devolving upon them. The committee have also examined the records and by-laws of the Chapter, and have found them substantially correct, and in conformity to the Constitution and by-laws of the Grand Chapter of Maine.

"Saco, Oct. 15, 1828. HORACE SEAVER, *Per order.*"

The Grand Chapter was then adjourned till half past nine o'clock to-morrow morning, then to meet at a room adjacent to Masons' Hall, provided by York Chapter for this occasion.

OCTOBER 16, 1828.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment, and was organized the same as yesterday.

A communication of the G. H. Priest in relation to dispensing with the use of ardent spirits upon this occasion, and the approbation thereof by York Chapter, were read, whereupon it was

Voted, unanimously, That this Grand Chapter will cordially co-operate in the benevolent efforts now making in the Christian and moral part of the community to promote the cause of temperance; and in accordance with this sentiment, we approve the direction of the G. H. Priest, that ardent spirits shall make no part of the refreshment to be provided on this occasion, and we recommend that the use thereof be prohibited on all future occasions of consecrating Chapters within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter were then conducted by a committee from York Chapter to Masons' Hall, where a procession was then formed, consisting of Saco Lodge in front, York Chapter in the centre, and the Grand Chapter in the rear, the whole preceded

by a band of music, and proceeded to the First Congregational Meeting House, where an *able* and *appropriate* address was delivered by E. and Rev. Comp. Reuben Nason, Grand Chaplain, accompanied by prayer and music, agreeably to the order of exercises for the occasion.

York Chapter was then consecrated and its officers installed in ample form.

The exercises being concluded, the procession was again formed and proceeded to Banks' Hotel, and sat down to an excellent dinner prepared for the occasion. After dinner the Grand Chapter was escorted to its place of meeting, and then closed in due form.

Attest,

OLIVER GERRISH, *G. Secretary, pro tem.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At a Special Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, at Masons' Hall, in Bangor, on the evening of the 27th of October, A. D. 1828, were present M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, Grand High Priest, E. Isaac G. Reed, Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*, and Comp's Aaron Young and Cyril Pearl.

The following commission and report were read and ordered to be recorded, viz:

Wiscasset, October 8, 1828.

To Isaac G. Reed, Aaron Young *and* Cyril Pearl.

Companions:—Reposing full confidence in your wisdom and discretion, I appoint you a committee to examine the members of Mount Moriah Chapter, at Bangor, with regard to their ability to perform the duties required of them preparatory to the consecration of the Chapter and installation of their officers, according to my order already issued for the purpose.

You will please to perform this service and report to me in Grand Chapter, at Bangor, on the evening of the 27th inst.

(Signed,) NATH'L COFFIN, *Grand High Priest.*

To M. E. NATH'L COFFIN, ESQ., *Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine:*

In obedience to your commission of October 8, 1828, we have examined the members of Mount Moriah Chapter, at Bangor, with regard to their abilities to perform the requisite duties, and have found them of competent ability, their records correct and fair, and their proceedings in conformity with the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

(Signed,) ISAAC G. REED, AARON YOUNG, CYRIL PEARL, } *Committee.*

Bangor, October 27, 1828.

Adjourned till to-morrow, 9 A. M.

Attest, ISAAC G. REED, *G. Secretary, pro tem.*

OCTOBER 28, 1828, 9 A. M.

Met according to adjournment, and the Grand Chapter was organized as follows:

M. E.	NATHANIEL COFFIN,	Grand High Priest.
"	HORACE SEAVER,	Dep. G. H. Priest.
E.	MOSES GREENLEAF,	Grand King, *p. t.*
"	WM. D. WILLIAMSON,	" Scribe, "
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" Treasurer.
"	ISAAC G. REED,	" Secretary, *p. t.*
Comp.	GORHAM PARKS,	" Marshal, "
"	—— GREENLEAF,	" Steward, "
"	DAVID KIDDER,	" " "
"	AARON YOUNG,	Bearer of Great Lights.
"	JOB WHITE,	" " G. R. A. Banner.

At 10 o'clock A. M., the Grand Marshal announced that he was informed by a committee, that Mount Moriah Chapter was prepared to receive the Grand Chapter; which was then conducted in procession by the committee to their Hall, and received with appropriate honors.

The record of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter at their communication at Saco, on the 8th of October inst., was read, and also communications from all the Subordinate Chapters in the State, expressing their unanimous approbation of the benevolent efforts now making by the Christian and moral part of the community, to promote the cause of temperance, and pledging their cordial co-operation.

At 11 o'clock A. M. a procession was formed and proceeded to the meeting house of the Rev. Mr. POMROY, who performed the duties of Chaplain.

Mount Moriah Chapter was solemnly consecrated, and the following officers installed in ancient form, viz:

M. E.	SAMUEL VALENTINE,	*High Priest.*
E.	ALBERT A. DILLINGHAM,	*King.*
"	BENJAMIN NOURSE,	*Scribe.*
Comp.	JOSEPH R. LUMBERT,	*R. A. Captain.*
"	CYRUS BROWN,	*Capt. of the Host.*
"	JOHN BROWN,	*Principal Sojourner.*
"	EBENEZER FRENCH,	*Treasurer.*
"	WM. DAVENPORT,	*Secretary.*
"	JOHN WILLIAMS,	*Master of Vail.*
"	JOHN HOIT,	" "
"	RUFUS DWINELL,	" "
"	SAMUEL B. MORRILL,	*Steward.*
"	WM. W. EMERSON,	"

The public ceremonies were closed by a brief address upon the origin, design and character of this degree of masonry, by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

The procession returned to Chick's Hotel, and partook of an elegant and excellent dinner. The Grand Chapter was re-conducted to their Hall, and closed in due form.

Attest,

(Signed,) ISAAC G. REED, *G. Secretary, p. t.*

A transcript of the minutes taken by E. Comp. ISAAC G. REED, now on file.

Attest, C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1829.

A regular communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, being the annual communication, was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, January 13, 1829.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JAMES L. CHILD, ...	Grand High Priest, *p. t.*
"	HORACE SEAVER, ...	" King, *p t.*
"	BENJAMIN S. DEANE, ...	" Scribe, *p. t.*
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" Secretary.
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ...	" Marshal, *p. t.*
"	Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF, . . .	" Chaplain.
"	Rev. SAMUEL JOHNSON, ...	" Chaplain, *p. t.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, , . . .	" Steward.
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Sentinel.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon, by—

M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, High Priest.
E. NELSON RACKLYFT, King.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER, Scribe.

New Jerusalem, by—

M. E. BENJAMIN S. DEANE, High Priest.
E. EBEN HILTON, proxy of E. WARREN RICE, King.
" HALSEY HEALY, Scribe.

Jerusalem, by—

E. D. WADSWORTH, King.
" SAMUEL K. GILMAN, proxy of E. JNO. K. GILMAN, Scribe.

Mount Moriah, by—

E. MOSES GREENLEAF, proxy of M. E. S. L. VALENTINE, H. Priest.
" SAMUEL JOHNSON, proxy of E. A. A. DILLINGHAM, King.
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY, proxy of E. BENJAMIN NOURSE, Scribe.

York, by—

M. E. THOMAS L. BOWLES, High Priest.
E. JOHN SPRING, King.

Voted, That Comp's MEGQUIER, WADSWORTH and HEALEY, be a committee to examine the credentials of Companions claiming seats in Grand Chapter as proxies.

Voted, That sundry bills presented against the Grand Chapter by D. BUXTON, HILL and EDWARDS, T. TODD, SHIRLEY and HYDE, and C. B. SMITH, be referred to the Committee of Finance.

Voted, That Comp's MOSES GREENLEAF, C. B. SMITH and B. S. DEANE, be a committee to examine the foreign correspondence.

The Committee on Credentials reported that the Companions claiming seats as proxies are duly entitled to the same, except Comp's HILTON and GILMAN, whose commissions were defective, not being under seal: whereupon—

Voted, That Comp's HILTON and GILMAN be permitted to hold their seats, notwithstanding the informality in their commissions.

Voted, To proceed to the election of officers.

And Comp's S. K. GILMAN, E. HILTON and A. SHIRLEY, were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count votes for the several officers to be elected; and having attended to that service, reported the result of the election to be as follows, viz:

M. E. NATH'L COFFIN, ... *Grand High Priest.*
" AMOS NOURSE, *Dep. G. H. Priest*, vice J. L. CHILD declined.
" HORACE SEAVER, ... *Grand King.*
" SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ... " *Scribe.*
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ... " *Treasurer.*
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER, *G. Secretary*, vice C. B. SMITH declined.

Voted, That Comp's MEGQUIER, BOWLES and D. BURBANK, be a committee to consider the subject of returning the jewels prior to the election, at the annual meetings of Grand Chapter.

Voted, That when the Grand Chapter adjourns it be till Monday evening next at half past 6 o'clock P. M.

Voted, That the installation of the officers elect be postponed until Tuesday evening next, and that Comp's CHILD, GERRISH and GILMAN, be a committee to invite the attendance on that occasion of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, with such other officers and members of the Grand Lodge as he may please to invite.

Voted, To adjourn.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Jan. 19, 1829.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment, M. E. JAMES L. CHILD in the chair.

Returns were received from and dues paid by Mount Vernon and Mount Moriah Chapters.

A petition was presented, signed by sundry Companions at Thomaston, members of New Jerusalem Chapter, praying for the permanent location of said Chapter at Thomaston; which was read, and, with the accompanying documents, referred to Comp's H. SEAVER, D. WADSWORTH and S. K. GILMAN.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report, which was read, amended, and accepted, as follows:

The committee to whom were referred the several communications of Grand Chapters in correspondence with this Grand Chapter, report:

That they have carefully examined the same, from which they discover that much of the true spirit of our institution is abroad, and in active and prosperous exercise in our sister Grand Chapters, notwithstanding the illiberal and unparalleled exertions which have been made, and in some parts of the country are still making by the enemies of masonry, to bring the same into disrepute.

The committee notice, with cordial approbation, a resolution unanimously adopted by the Grand Chapter of Vermont, directing their Grand Treasurer to transmit to the Treasurer of the American Bible Society, the sum of $30,

for the purpose of constituting the Rev. Amos Drury, their Grand Chaplain, a life member of said society; and they would respectfully recommend that a similar resolution be adopted by this Grand Chapter as soon as our funds shall be sufficient to warrant such appropriation, making our Senior Grand Chaplain a life member of said society.

Your committee also highly approve the interchange of circulars among the several Grand Chapters, communicating to each other the impressions of their seals and the signatures of their respective Grand Officers for the time being; and if to this could be added the impressions of the seals of the several Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of the several Grand Chapters, it would, in the opinion of the committee, afford a strong test by which to prove the authenticity of diplomas and other certificates emanating from Grand and Subordinate Chapters.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Per order, MOSES GREENLEAF, *Chairman.*

M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, G. H. Priest, appeared and took the chair.

The Committee of Finance made the following report, which was read and accepted, viz:

The Committee of Finance respectfully report: That they have examined the Grand Treasurer's accounts, and they find them correctly and neatly kept and properly vouched. Copies of the Grand Treasurer's accounts with the Grand Chapter, and with the Charity Fund, showing its present condition, are herewith submitted and form a part of this report.

The committee have also examined the following bills, and recommend that they be allowed and paid, viz:

The Grand Secretary's, for sundry postages, and his fees on charter to York Chapter, amounting to.....	$15.09
Hill & Edwards' bill for advertising,.....	1.00
Thomas Todd's bill for printing and advertising,.....	27.25
Shirley & Hyde's bill for parchment charters,.....	14.00
David Buxton's bill for Record Book,.....	1.75
Amounting to.....	$59.09

The committee recommend that there be allowed and paid to the Grand Treasurer for his services to the present time, the sum of $15.00, and to the Grand Secretary, for his services, the sum of $10.00. They also recommend that there be allowed to the Grand Tyler the sum of $6.00, and to Comp. John Leach, for taking care of the Hall, the sum of $4.00.

All which is respectfully submitted,

(Signed,) HORACE SEAVER, NELSON RACKLYFT, JOHN L. MEGQUIER, } *Committee.*

The Grand Treasurer presented the sum of Fifteen Dollars, allowed him by the foregoing report, to the Charity Fund.

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Chapter be presented to M.E. Comp. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, for this repeated instance of his liberality.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of sundry masonic degrees, appendant to the Royal Arch degree, made a report, which was read and accepted, and the resolutions offered therein were adopted, as follows, viz:

The undersigned committee, appointed at the annual communication in January, 1828, on the subject of assuming the control of several masonic degrees, as expressed in their commission, make the following report:

We addressed letters to the several High Priests of Chapters under this jurisdiction relative to the subject committed to us, and through them to all Councils or other bodies of masons, or individuals who might be interested; we also addressed letters to distinguished individuals of the Fraternity in other States concerning the same subject. The copies of those letters, with the replies, accompany our report. It will appear from them that every member of the Fraternity in this State interested in the result, so far as we have been able to learn, is desirous that the Grand Chapter should take under its control all masonic degrees which it may properly regulate according to its resolves of January, 1828. In accordance with these wishes, and believing that the peace and harmony of the Fraternity will be promoted and the good of the community advanced thereby, we recommend that the following preamble and resolutions be adopted:

Whereas, All the masonic bodies in this State, which have heretofore conferred the degree of Super-Excellent and Secret Master and Royal and Select Master, and all individuals in possession of them, so far as we are informed have expressed their desire that this Grand Chapter should consider these degrees under their control and provide for the regular and orderly conferring of them, and also to provide against the illicit and irresponsible communication of masonic knowledge: And—

Whereas, Upon consultation with individuals in other States, distinguished for their attachment to the Fraternity, as well as for their masonic knowledge and discretion, such a measure is considered expedient and proper, and is by ourselves considered necessary to prevent the many evils which may otherwise arise, to the great discredit of the Institution and diminution of its usefulness—

Therefore resolved, That hereafter no Royal Arch Mason or Mark Master shall, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, communicate any facts

or traditions pertaining to the Order of Freemasonry, which are properly denominated or considered as masonic secrets, to any person or persons who shall not have already regularly received the degrees to which those secrets appertain, except it be in some regular assembly or body of masons legally convened by virtue of a charter derived from the Grand Lodge of the State, or from this Grand Chapter, or from the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, or some other regularly organized masonic body having constitutional masonic jurisdiction in this State; and that every Mark Master or Royal Arch Mason who shall be guilty of the unmasonic conduct reprobated in this resolve, shall be expelled from the Fraternity and excluded from all the rights and benefits of the Institution. The inquiry to be made and sentence passed according to masonic usage, and the name of the offender and his misconduct published by any Chapter in the State to which complaint shall be made, or by the Grand Chapter in case of appeal.

Resolved, That the degrees of Super-Excellent and Secret Master, and the degrees of Royal and Select Master, being now in the possession of this Grand Chapter, and being considered by us as intimately connected with and explanatory of Royal Arch Masonry, shall hereafter be conferred upon all regular Royal Arch Masons deserving the same by the several subordinate Chapters; and for this purpose a special warrant shall issue to each of the Chapters under this jurisdiction, authorizing them to confer these degrees, and all others which may hereafter be adopted by this Grand Chapter, as appendant orders to the Royal Arch degree, as soon as the first three officers of the same and a competent number of their members are qualified, and they are possessed of the appropriate regalia and furniture for the purpose; and in order to secure the regular conferring of these appendant orders in regular succession—

Resolved, That the High Priest, King and Scribe, and all the constitutional officers of the Subordinate Chapters, returned to this Grand Chapter as now in office, be and hereby are declared entitled to these appendant degrees, to be conferred on them gratuitously, as soon as may be, in their respective Chapters, or any other Chapter under this jurisdiction to which they may apply during their continuance in office; and thenceforward, any Royal Arch Mason who shall be elected to be High Priest in a Chapter, and accept the office, shall be entitled to receive all the appendant orders gratuitously, in like manner as he becomes entitled to the Order of the Priesthood. And every Permanent Member of this Grand Chapter, and every Royal Arch Mason hereafter elected to any office in the same, shall be entitled to receive the same appendant orders or degrees gratuitously in any Subordinate Chapter in which he may request the same. And it shall be the duty of the Secretaries of the Subordinate Chapters to certify annually, on the first of January, to the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer in their annual returns, the names of all such as have received any of these degrees, and the time of conferring them.

Resolved, That the four degrees herein mentioned, and all other degrees which may hereafter be adopted as appendant orders, shall be conferred in the order mentioned, and shall be designated as the first, second, third and fourth appendant orders to the Royal Arch degree; and, in order that they may be regularly conferred, any Chapter having a warrant therefor may, at pleasure, resolve itself into a Lodge of Super-Excellent Masters, or into a Council upon the other degrees; and, in such case, its High Priest, King and Scribe, and other officers in regular succession, as elected in the Chapter, shall be the first, second, third, &c., officers in Lodge or Council, as is now provided on the inferior degrees in their gift.

Resolved, That the fee for conferring these appendant orders upon all Royal Arch Masons, except such as are entitled to them gratuitously, shall be two dollars, one-half to be paid over, with other dues, to the Grand Chapter, and be appropriated to the Charity Fund, and the other to be at the disposal of the Chapter.

(Signed,) NATHANIEL COFFIN, JAMES LORING CHILD, } *Committee.*

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a suitable number of copies of the by-laws as they now exist, embracing the regulations of the Charity Fund and the resolutions adopted this evening relative to additional degrees; and that the same be done as soon as conveniently may be.

The following resolution was submitted by M. E. JAMES L. CHILD:

Resolved, That there shall be a Library and Cabinet belonging to this Grand Chapter, to be composed of all such books, pamphlets, maps, newspapers, charts and manuscripts, and also all such engravings and impressions of seals, and diplomas ancient and modern, and also all such medals and coins and other things as are calculated to throw light on the history of Freemasonry or to make the Institution more interesting and useful, and as may be presented by liberal donors or procured by order of the Grand Chapter; that perfect copies of all the printed proceedings of all masonic bodies, together with exact copies of their seals, charters and diplomas, and also of the signatures of their principal officers, together with copies of all masonic orations, charges and addresses heretofore delivered, be solicited to form the foundation thereof: and, until there be some masonic edifice erected in which the Grand Chapter may have an apartment fitted up and set apart for this purpose, the Grand Secretary be appointed to receive and carefully preserve all such donations as may be made for this object.

The foregoing resolution was read, and referred to Comp's JOHN L. MEGQUIER, BENJ. S. DEANE and D. WADSWORTH.

The two following resolutions, submitted by Comp. JOHN L. MEGQUIER, were read and adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be requested to write to the several Chapters which have neglected to make the returns and pay the dues required by the by-laws, directing them to comply with the requisitions of the by-laws of this Grand Chapter without delay.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer inform Mount Moriah Chapter and York Chapter of the amount of expenses incurred by the Grand Chapter by reason of special meetings holden for the purpose of installing those Chapters respectively, and request them to pay the same to the Grand Treasurer.

Voted, That when the Grand Chapter adjourns it be till to-morrow evening at 6 o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 20, 1829.

The Grand Chapter met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E. NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Grand High Priest.
" JAMES L. CHILD, ...	Dep. Grand High Priest.
" HORACE SEAVER, ...	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" BENJAMIN S. DEANE, ...	" Scribe "
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
" CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" Secretary.
" SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ...	" Marshal, *pro tem.*
E. & Rev. ASA MEAD, ...	" Chaplain.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon, New Jerusalem, Jerusalem and Mount Moriah.

The following report was made, read and accepted, viz:

The committee to whom was referred the resolution submitted by Comp. CHILD on the subject of a Library and Cabinet, have considered the same and respectfully report:

That, though they deem the measure proposed by the resolution one which may at some future period be advisable to adopt, yet, considering the fact that this Grand Chapter has not a suitable apartment for a Library and Cabinet, and that such could not be obtained without an expense which the present state of our funds will not warrant, and considering the great trouble and inconvenience which would, for want of such apartment, devolve upon the Secretary by adopting said resolution, and the necessarily increased compensation to which he would be entitled, they seriously doubt the expediency of passing the resolution at the present time, and recommend that the subject be postponed till the next annual communication.

(Signed,) JOHN L. MEGQUIER, BENJ. S. DEANE, DANIEL WADSWORTH, } *Committee.*

Voted, That the committee on the subject of returning jewels prior to the election of officers be discharged from further consideration of that subject.

The committee on the petition of the Companions at Thomaston made a report, which was read, discussed and withdrawn; when, on motion—

Voted, That Comp's JAMES L. CHILD, ZINA HYDE and ROBERT P. DUNLAP, be a committee to consult with the Companions at Thomaston and Wiscasset, and if an amicable arrangement can be made between them for the permanent location of New Jerusalem Chapter at Thomaston, on terms consistent with the interests of this Grand Chapter, the committee are to report to the Grand High Priest, who shall be authorized to issue a dispensation for said permanent location.

Several members of the Grand Lodge of Maine having been invited to be present at the installation of the officers, were now introduced. A prayer was made by Rev. Comp. STEPHEN LOVELL, after which E. and Rev. Comp. ASA MEAD, Grand Chaplain, delivered a highly interesting and appropriate discourse from Matthew, 4th chapter, 16th verse.

The Grand High Priest then announced the following appointments for the ensuing year, viz:

E. & Rev.	REUBEN NASON, of Gorham,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	SENECA WHITE, of Bath,	" "
"	STEPHEN LOVELL, of Portland,	" "
"	DANIEL CHESMAN, of Hallowell,	" "
E.	ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough,	" *Marshal.*

E.	NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	*Grand Steward.*
"	ZINA HYDE, of Bath,	" "
"	JOEL MILLER, of St. George,	" "
"	DANIEL WADSWORTH, of Hallowell,	" "
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland,	" *Sentinel.*

The following officers were then duly installed by the M. E. Grand High Priest, viz:

M. E.	AMOS NOURSE, by his proxy, M. E. JAMES L. CHILD,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	HORACE SEAVER,	*Grand King.*
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN,	" *Scribe.*
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	" *Secretary.*
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
"	DANIEL WADSWORTH,	" "
"	WILLIAM STEVENS,	" *Sentinel.*

The other Grand Officers being absent, their installation was postponed.

The members of the Grand Lodge then withdrew.

On motion of Comp. ARTHUR SHIRLEY,

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be presented to E. and Rev. Comp. ASA MEAD, for the faithful and instructive discourse with which he has this evening favored the Companions and Brethren; and that he be requested to furnish the Grand Secretary with the whole, or so much of it as he shall deem proper, that it may be forwarded to the editor of the *Amaranth* for publication in his valuable periodical.

Comp's HORACE SEAVER, NELSON RACKLYFT and CHARLES B. SMITH, were appointed a Committee of Finance.

On motion,

Voted, That the 12th Article of the by-laws of this Grand Chapter be amended so as to read, after the word Chapter, in the fifth line, "and shall annually, on the first day of January, make duplicate returns of the names of their officers and members and of the candidates by them admitted to any of the degrees in their gift, (one of which returns shall be held by the Grand Treasurer and the other by the Grand Secretary,) and, on or before the day of the annual communication, shall pay their dues to the Grand Treasurer."

Voted, To amend the by-laws, in the 24th Article, by striking out the word *July,* and inserting the word *January.*

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a suitable number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter during the last year for distribution, as is customary.

The minutes of the proceedings at this annual communication were then read, and approved; and the Grand Chapter was closed in due form.

Attest,

JOHN LOUVILLE MEGQUIER, *G. Secretary.*

At a Council of High Priests, holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the 21st day of January, A.D. 1829, M.E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, ESQ., in the chair,

The order of Priesthood was regularly conferred on M.E. ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Past High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter, M.E. SAMUEL K. GILMAN, and M.E. and Rev. STEPHEN LOVELL, Past High Priests of Jerusalem Chapter, and M.E. BENJAMIN S. DEANE, High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter, and they were duly anointed as such.

The Council was then duly closed.

Attest, CHARLES B. SMITH, *Secretary.*

Copy.

Attest, JOHN L. MEGQUIER, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1830.

The annual communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, January 19, 1830.

PRESENT.

M. E.	NATH'L COFFIN, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	AMOS NOURSE, Dep. Grand High Priest, acting as G. King, *p. t.*	
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ...	Grand Scribe.
E.	THOMAS DODGE, ...	" Treasurer, *p. t.*
"	JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ...	" Secretary.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" Marshal, *p. t.*
Comp.	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Steward.
"	DAVID BURBANK, ...	" Steward, *p. t.*

Comp's James Alden, Ebenezer Hilton and Moses Smith, admitted as visitors.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon, by—

M. E. John L. Megquier, High Priest.
" Nelson Racklyft, King.

Voted, That when the Grand Chapter adjourn it be till to-morrow evening at half past 6 p. m.

Voted, That the election of officers be postponed till to-morrow evening.

Comp's Amos Nourse and Charles B. Smith were appointed a Committee of Foreign Correspondence.

Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH and NELSON RACKLYFT were appointed a committee to examine the credentials of Companions claiming seats in the Grand Chapter as proxies.

Voted, That the resolution offered at the last annual communication by M. E. Comp. JAMES L. CHILD, relative to a Library and Cabinet for the Grand Chapter, be now adopted.

Voted, That the Grand Chapter approve the delegation of M. E. Comp. NOURSE as a representative to the General Grand Chapter in September last, and that the Grand Treasurer be requested to pay the amount of his actual expenses in attending said General Grand Chapter, amounting to the sum of sixty-five dollars.

Adjourned.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 20, 1830.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter met according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E. NATH'L COFFIN, ... Grand High Priest.
" AMOS NOURSE, Dep. Grand High Priest, acting as G. King, *p. t.*
" SAMUEL K. GILMAN, ... Grand Scribe.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ... " Secretary.
Comp. DAVID BURBANK, ... " Steward, *p. t.*

MEMBERS.

M. E. JAMES L. CHILD, Past Dep. Grand High Priest.

Comp's JAMES ALDEN, MOSES SMITH and CYRUS KENDRICK, admitted as visitors.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Mount Vernon, by—

M. E. JOHN L. MEGQUIER, High Priest.

Mount Moriah, by—

E. ARTHUR SHIRLEY, proxy of E. JOHN WILLIAMS, King.
" PASCHAL BROOKS, proxy of E. BENJAMIN NOURSE, Scribe.

Comp. NOURSE, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was read and accepted:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report that they have examined the several communications made to this Grand Chapter during the year past from other Masonic Bodies, and are pleased to find that although few additions are made to their numbers, yet the Institution continues to receive their confidence and active support, unaffected by the Anti-Christian combinations arrayed against it in many parts of our country.

A. NOURSE, *Per order.*

Voted, That Comp's ARTHUR SHIRLEY and PASCHAL BROOKS be admitted as the proxies of E. JOHN WILLIAMS and E. BENJAMIN NOURSE, King and Scribe of Mount Moriah Chapter, although their credentials are not under seal.

Voted, That the Grand Chapter now proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the current year, and that Comp's ARTHUR SHIRLEY and DAVID BURBANK be a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for the several officers to be elected.

Who, having attended to that duty, reported the result of the election to be as follows, viz:

M. E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	AMOS NOURSE,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	SAMUEL K. GILMAN,	*Grand King.*
"	JOHN H. SHEPPARD,	" *Scribe.*
E.	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

Voted, That the present time be assigned for the installation of the Grand Officers elected for the current year.

M. E. JOHN L. MEGQUIER was then duly installed by the M. E. Past Grand High Priest, after which the several officers elected this evening were installed by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest annonnced from the chair the following appointments for the cnrrent year:

E. & Rev.	REUBEN NASON, of Gorham,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	SENECA WHITE, of Bath,	" "
"	STEPHEN LOVELL, of Portland,	" "
"	FREEMAN PARKER, of Dresden,	" "
E.	ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough,	" *Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland,	" *Steward.*
"	EBENEZER HILTON, of Wiscasset,	" "

E. WM. TORREY, of Bath, *Grand Steward.*
" DANIEL WADSWORTH, of Hallowell, " "
" WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, " *Sentinel.*

Voted, That Fifteen Dollars be presented to the Grand Treasurer, Ten Dollars to the Grand Secretary, Six Dollars to the Grand Tyler, and Four Dollars to Comp. LEACH, for their services during the past year.

The Grand Treasurer, JOSEPH M. GERRISH, having presented the sum of Fifteen Dollars allowed him by the above vote, to the Charity Fund, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be presented to M. E. Comp. JOSEPH M. GERRISH for this repeated instance of his liberality.

Voted, That Comp's C. B. SMITH, ARTHUR SHIRLEY and NELSON RACKLYFT, be a Committee of Finance.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to borrow, upon the credit of this Grand Chapter, such sums of money as may be necessary to meet the demands against this Grand Chapter.

Voted, That Comp's NATHANIEL COFFIN, MOSES GREENLEAF and ARTHUR SHIRLEY, be a committee to take into consideration the state of Masonry generally in this State, and report thereon.

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be presented to M. E. Comp. NATHANIEL COFFIN for the able and dignified manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this body for the three years past, as well as for the zeal and devotedness to the best interests of the institution, worthy of all praise, which he has uniformly exhibited since the organization of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the Grand High Priest be requested to visit the several subordinate Chapters, or appoint some member of the Chapter to visit them, according to the 23d Article of the by-laws; and that he be requested to call officially upon those Chapters which have not made their returns and paid their dues for a statement of the reasons why such payment is not made, and that the expenses of such visits be paid out of the funds of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the Grand High Priest be requested, in making his visits, to confer with the several subordinate Chapters, and in concert with them devise such measures as the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this State may require, and report at the next annual communication.

The Grand Treasurer made the following report, which was accepted:

To the Grand Chapter of Maine:

Annual Report of the Treasurer, and statement of the funds at this time, January 19, 1830, viz:

There was in the Treasury at the last annual settlement, Jan. 19, '29,..$56.40

Since which time nothing has been received.

Paid out since the last settlement as follows, viz:

Paid William Stevens, for tyling,.....	...$ 6.00
" John Leach, for tyling,.....	4.00
" Thomas Todd, for printing,.....	27.25
" Hill & Edwards, for printing,.....	1.00
" Am't allowed Treasurer, and by him credited to the Charity Fund,	15.00
" David Buxton, for books,.....	1.75
" Oliver Gerrish, for breast plate,.....	22.50
" Postage and stationery,.....	.50
	$78.00
Now due the Treasurer on this account, as above appears,.....	21.60

There are outstanding bills due from the Chapter as follows, viz:

To Grand Secretary,.....	15.09
To Shirley and Hyde,.....	14.00
To C. B. Smith,.....	10.00
Due to Comp. Amos Nourse, for his expenses in attending the General Grand Chapter, and for which the Treasurer has accepted an order, when in funds,.....	65.00
	$125.69

Due from subordinate Chapters to the G. Chapter as follows, viz:

From Mount Vernon Chapter, the dues of the last year. No returns made.

From Montgomery Chapter, their dues from July 1, 1826, since which time we have had no returns.

From New Jerusalem Chapter, their dues from July 1, 1826, to Jan. 1, 1829, as per return made,..... 70.50

Ditto for the last year. No return.

From Mount Moriah Chapter, their dues for the last two years. No returns.

Ditto, amount of expenses of the officers of the Grand Chapter in attending their installation, as per accounts rendered,..... 60.89

From York Chapter, their dues ever since their organization. No returns.

Ditto, amount of expenses of the officers of the Grand Chapter in attending their installation, as per accounts rendered,..... 32.70

STATE OF THE CHARITY FUND.

The Charity Fund consists of two shares in the Canal Bank, cost,....		$200.00
There was in the hands of the Treasurer, belonging to this Fund, at the last settlement, a balance of.....	$51.61½	
Since which has been added what was allowed the Treasurer for his services last year,.....	15.00	
Dividend received on the two bank shares,.....	4.50	
		71.11½
Whole amount of Charity Fund is.....		$271.11½

Agreeably to a resolve of the Grand Chapter at their last annual communication, immediately after I sent a communication to the several Chapters which have neglected to make returns and pay their dues, therein requesting them to comply with the requisitions of the by-laws of the Grand Chapter without delay. Also, agreeably to another resolve of the Grand Chapter, I wrote to Mount Moriah and York Chapters, respectively, giving them an account of the expenses incurred by the Grand Chapter by reason of special meetings holden for installing those Chapters—from neither of which have I received any answer, except from Mount Moriah. The Treasurer of that Chapter wrote me, under date of 30th March last, stating "he expected to be in funds soon, and when he was, would remit the amount."

In the early part of the month of December, I addressed a circular to all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, urging them to make returns and settle their dues before the annual meeting. This call, also, like the former, I am sorry to state, has been altogether disregarded.

All which is respectfully submitted,

J. M. GERRISH, *Grand Treasurer.*

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

Attest, A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

At a Council of High Priests, holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the 20th of January, 1830,

M. E. NATHANIEL COFFIN in the chair,

The Order of Priesthood was regularly conferred upon M. E. JOHN LOUVILLE MEGQUIER, Grand High Priest elect of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, and M. E. AMOS NOURSE, Past High Priest of Jerusalem Chapter; and they were duly anointed as such.

The Council was then duly closed.

Attest, A. SHIRLEY, *Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1831.

The annual communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, Portland, Jan. 25, 1831.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ...	Grand High Priest.
E.	CHARLES FOX, ...	" King.
"	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	" Scribe.
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, . .	" Secretary.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Marshal.
Comp.	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Sentinel.

VISITORS.

E. Comp.		JOHN C. TALBOT, Machias.
"	"	WM. D. WILLIAMSON, Bangor.
"	"	PASCHAL BROOKS, Portland.
"	"	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, Portland.
"	"	ISAAC GAGE, Hallowell.

To the call by the Grand Marshal, of the Officers and Proxies of the Subordinate Chapters, answers were received from Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland; Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor; Montgomery Chapter, Bath; and Jerusalem Chapter, at Hallowell.

The Grand High Priest, who was appointed a committee at the last annual communication of this Grand Chapter, reported

verbally in relation to several of the subordinate Chapters, and read a communication from the High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter, at Thomaston, apologizing for their neglect to transmit the dues to the Grand Chapter, and representing the present depressed state of their funds, and their inability at present to meet the demands of the Grand Chapter.

A similar communication from the High Priest of Mt. Moriah Chapter was read, making similar representations to those of the High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter. Verbal statements were also made by officers of other Chapters, expressing their good wishes and representing their inability to discharge their debts.

The Grand Treasurer made his annual report, which was accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

On motion,

Voted, To proceed to the choice of officers.

E. Comp's CHARLES FOX and W. D. WILLIAMSON were appointed to receive, count and declare the votes, who reported the following E. Companions duly elected to the several offices affixed to their names:

M. E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	*Grand High Priest.*
E.	AMOS NOURSE,	*Dep. Grand H. Priest.*
"	WM. D. WILLIAMSON,	*Grand King.*
"	ISAAC GAGE,	" *Scribe.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.**
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

The present time having been assigned for the installation of the officers elect, they were severally invested.

On motion,

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it be to the second Tuesday in March next, then to meet at Masons' Hall, Portland, at seven o'clock in the evening.

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* E. Comp. J. M. GERRISH, who has served in the capacity of Grand Treasurer ever since the organization of this Grand Chapter, having declined a re-election, E. Comp. OLIVER GERRISH was chosen in his stead.

Voted, That the committee raised this evening to settle with the Subordinate Chapters, be requested to enter upon the duties of their appointment as soon as may be.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be requested to notify the Subordinate Chapters of the adjournment of this Grand Chapter, and request them to be represented by their officers or proxies at said meeting.

Adjourned.

MASONS' HALL, March 8, 1831.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ...	Grand High Priest.
E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	" King, *pro tem.*
"	DAVID BURBANK, ...	" Scribe, "
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
"	WILLIAM STEVENS, ...	" Sentinel.
"	GORHAM PARKS, Proxy to Mount Moriah Chapter.	

VISITOR.

Comp. JOHN C. TALBOT, Machias.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced from the chair the following appointments:

Rev.	REUBEN NASON, Gorham,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	SENECA WHITE, Bath,	" "
"	FREEMAN PARKER, Dresden,	" "
"	BENJ. HUNTOON, Bangor,	" "
Comp.	GORHAM PARKS,	" *Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, Portland,	" *Steward.*
"	EBEN HILTON, Wiscasset,	" "
"	WILLIAM TORREY, Bath,	" "
"	JOHN C. TALBOT, Machias,	" "

After the reading of a communication from York Chapter, relating to the depressed state of their funds, it was

Voted, That said communication be committed to a select committee, with full power to adjust the demands against York Chapter on the best terms which can be had.

M. E. Charles Fox, A. Shirley and Oliver Gerrish, were appointed said committee.

On motion,

Voted, That the dues (amounting to about $60) of Montgomery Chapter be remitted and the account balanced, on the Chapter's paying this Grand Chapter the sum of $25.

A statement of the pecuniary embarrassment of Mount Moriah Chapter having been made by the Representative from Bangor, it was

Voted, That the dues of said Chapter be remitted and the accounts balanced, on condition that they pay this Grand Chapter the sum of $25.

The concerns of New Jerusalem Chapter, at Thomaston, were referred to the committee to whom the subject of York Chapter was referred.

The same committee was instructed to call on Jerusalem Chapter, at Hallowell, for the payment of their dues.

Voted, To adjourn, to meet again at this place on Tuesday evening, March 22d.

Adjourned accordingly.

Masons' Hall, March 22, 1831.

Met according to adjournment; but there not being a quorum assembled, and there being no special business before the Grand Chapter, on motion, it was

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to meet at such time and place as the Grand High Priest shall direct.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest,

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1832.

The annual communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Augusta, Jan. 17, 1832.

PRESENT.

M.E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ...	Grand High Priest.
E.	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, ...	" King, *pro tem.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" Scribe, "
"	JOSEPH CHANDLER, ...	" Secretary, *p. t.*

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it be to Wednesday, the 25th instant, then to meet at this place at seven o'clock P.M., and that the Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*, give notice of the adjournment in the papers of Augusta and Hallowell.

Adjourned.

MASONS' HALL, AUGUSTA, Jan. 25, 1832.

Met agreeably to adjournment; but there not being a quorum present,

Voted, That this Grand Chapter adjourn to the evening of the first day o February next, then to meet at this place at seven o'clock.

MASONS' HALL, AUGUSTA, Feb. 1, 1832.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	S. K. GILMAN, ...	" King, *pro tem.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, . .	" Scribe, "
"	JOS. M. GERRISH, ... ,	" Treasurer, *p. t.*
"	JOS. CHANDLER, ...	" Secretary, "
"	JESSE ROBINSON, ...	" Marshal, "

The annual report of the committee appointed to effect a settlement with the several Subordinate Chapters was received, accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

On motion,

Voted, To proceed to the choice of officers for the year ensuing.

Comp's JOS. M. GERRISH and JESSE ROBINSON were appointed to receive and count the votes, whereupon it appeared and was reported and declared that the following Companions were elected to the several offices affixed to their names respectively:

M. E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	AMOS NOURSE,	*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.*
"	JESSE ROBINSON,	*Grand King.*
"	ISAAC GAGE,	" *Scribe.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to meet at the time and place which shall be designated by the Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest made the following appointments:

Comp.	REUBEN NASON,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	SAMUEL JOHNSON,	" "
"	ISAAC G. REED,	" *Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
"	ZINA HYDE,	" "
"	D. WADSWORTH,	" "
"	RUFUS C. VOSE,	" "
"	WILLIAM STEVENS,	" *Sentinel.*

Voted, That Jos. Chandler and Jesse Robinson be a Committee on Accounts.

A communication was received from the High Priest of Mt. Vernon Chapter, stating that that Chapter had suspended the meetings thereof, and praying to be exempted from all dues to the Grand Chapter; and, on motion, it was

Voted, That the prayer thereof, as aforesaid, be granted during such suspension.

Adjourned.

Attest, JOS. CHANDLER, *Secretary, pro tem.*

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

1833.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 15, 1833.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine:

PRESENT.

M. E. JOHN L. MEGQUIER, . .	Grand High Priest.	
Comp. OLIVER GERRISH, ...	"	Treasurer.
" O. B. DORRANCE, ...	"	Secretary, *p. t.*
" JERE. MARTIN, ...	"	Tyler.
" FRANCIS CLARK.		

Voted, To adjourn to Tuesday evening, 29th inst., at six o'clock, for want of a quorum.

Attest,

O. B. DORRANCE, *Secretary, pro tem.*

MASONS' HALL, January 29, 1833.

Comp's CRAM, RACKLYFT, CLARK, HARTSHORN, SMITH and MARTIN being present, and not being a quorum—

Voted, To adjourn to the second Wednesday in February, for want of a quorum.

Attest,

O. B. DORRANCE, *Secretary, pro tem.*

MASONIC HALL, February 13, 1833.

J. L. MEGQUIER, N. RACKLYFT, J. MARTIN, E. WYER, O. S. HARTSHORN, O. GERRISH, and Secretary, *pro tem.*

Voted, To adjourn to first Wednesday in March, for want of a quorum.

O. B. DORRANCE, *Secretary, pro tem.*

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

At an adjourned meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, held at Masons' Hall in the city of Portland, March 6, 1833:

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES FOX, ...	" King, *pro tem.*
"	DAVID BURBANK, ...	" Scribe, "
Comp.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	A. SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
"	ELEAZER WYER, ...	" Marshal.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" Steward.
"	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, . .	" " *p. t.*
"	JERE. MARTIN, ...	" Sentinel.

M. E. Companions represented:

E. NATHANIEL COFFIN, P. G. H. P., by Comp. SETH BIRD, his Proxy.
E. AMOS NOURSE, Dep. G. H. P., by Comp. ELEAZAR WYER, his Proxy.
E. CHAS. B. SMITH, P. G. Scribe, by Comp. WM. LORD, his Proxy.
E. SAM'L K. GILMAN, P. G. S., by Comp. NEHEMIAH CRAM, his Proxy.

Comp's A. SHIRLEY and N. RACKLYFT were appointed a Committee of Finance.

The Grand Treasurer made his annual report, which was read and ordered to be recorded, as follows:

To the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maine:

The Treasurer submits the following report:

There was a balance in my hands on settlement last year of		$49.27
Received cash of Jerusalem Chapter,		12.00
		$61.27
Paid to F. Wingate,	$13.00	
" Eaton & Severance,	.75	
" Robinson & Baker,	.75	
" W. W. V. Washburn,	.75	
" I. Berry & Co.,	.75	
" J. & W. E. Edwards,	.75	
" Thomas Todd,	.75	
		$17.50
Balance on hand,		$43.77
Balance carried to new accounts of Charity Fund, on settlement January, 1832,		$ 3.61
Dividend on Bank stock, 2 shares,		9.30
		$12.91

The two shares in Canal Bank are estimated at $92.00 each. There is a note with interest due, of about $96.00, on interest to J. B. Scott.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Portland, Jan. 14, 1833. OLIVER GERRISH, *G. Treasurer.*

Comp's A. Shirley, O. Gerrish and Robert P. Dunlap, were appointed a committee to write to the several subordinate Chapters which are indebted to this Grand Chapter and urge a settlement of their dues, with authority to make such a compromise with them as they shall deem expedient.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

The following gentlemen were announced by the Marshal as being duly chosen:

M. E. WILLIAM SWAN,	*Grand High Priest.*
" AMOS NOURSE,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
" JESSE ROBINSON,	*Grand King.*
" ISAAC GAGE,	" *Scribe.*
" OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
" A. SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourns, it be to the second Wednesday in April next, for the purpose of installing the officers elect.

Adjourned accordingly.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

In 1834 and 1835 no Convocation.

1836.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 19, 1836.

The ordinary mode of summoning a meeting of the members of this Grand Chapter having been rendered invalid by reason of negligence to convene the corporation in the last two years, the present meeting was held by virtue of power derived from the instruments which follow:

To JOHN L. MEGQUIER, ESQ., *one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Cumberland:*

The undersigned, members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, represent that said corporation is destitute of officers authorized to call meetings of the same, and they therefore request you to issue your warrant to one of the subscribers requiring him to notify a meeting of said corporation, to be holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on Tuesday, the nineteenth day of January, A. D. 1836, a 7 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing the officers required by the by-laws of said corporation to be elected at the annual meeting thereof; for the purpose of providing means for the payment of the debts of the corporation, and for the purpose of transacting such other business as may be legally transacted under the by-laws of the corporation aforesaid at ts annual meeting.

OLIVER GERRISH,
A. SHIRLEY,
CHARLES CHASE,
CHARLES B. SMITH.

Portland, November 17, 1835.

STATE OF MAINE.

CUMBERLAND, SS.

To OLIVER GERRISH, *Greeting.*

You are hereby required to notify a meeting of the Corporation, named in the foregoing application, to be holden at the time and place and for the purposes in said application expressed.

Given under my hand and seal, at Portland, the 17th November, A. D. 1835.

J. L. MEGQUIER, *Justice of the Peace.*

I hereby certify that I have caused an attested copy of the above application and warrant and notice to the officers, members and proxies of the above named Corporation to be published in the *Eastern Argus*, the paper designated to print the laws of the State, and also in the *Portland Advertiser*, published in the County where the meeting is to be held, three weeks successively, last publication more than fourteen days before the time of meeting.

Attest,

Portland, Jan. 18, 1836. OLIVER GERRISH.

After the foregoing Application and Warrant for calling the meeting was read by E. OLIVER GERRISH, M.E. CHARLES FOX was called to the chair.

E. Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH and DAVID BURBANK were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers to preside over this Grand Chapter the ensuing year; who announced the following Companions as duly elected, viz:

M.E. OLIVER GERRISH,	*Grand High Priest.*
" JOSEPH CHANDLER, Augusta,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
" DAVID BURBANK,	*Grand King.*
" SETH BIRD,	" *Scribe.*
E. CHARLES CHASE,	" *Treasurer.*
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

The installation of the foregoing Companions was deferred until the adjournment, when the Grand High Priest will announce the appointment of subordinate officers.

Present, besides the above:

M.E. JOHN L. MEGQUIER,
" CHARLES FOX,
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN

E. CHARLES B. SMITH,
" JEREMIAH MARTIN.

On motion,

Voted, That Comp's JOHN L. MEGQUIER, CHARLES FOX and CHARLES B. SMITH be a committee to examine the by-laws and report such alterations as they shall see fit at an adjourned meeting of this Grand Chapter.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to dispose of one of our shares in the Canal Bank, and cancel the demands against this Chapter.

The Grand Secretary was appointed a committee to examine and allow the accounts against the Grand Chapter, if found correct.

After the Grand Secretary was elected, he took the oath of office; and the following is the certificate of the Magistrate who administered the same:

STATE OF MAINE.

CUMBERLAND, SS. JANUARY 19, 1836.

Then personally appeared ARTHUR SHIRLEY, and made oath that he would faithfully and impartially perform the duties of Secretary to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, to which he has been chosen for the current year. Before me,

JOHN L. MEGQUIER, *Justice of the Peace.*

On motion,

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter separates, it adjourn to meet at this place on Wednesday evening next, 27th inst., at seven o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Jan. 27, 1836.

PRESENT.

M. E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	DAVID BURBANK, ...	" King.
"	SETH BIRD, ...	" Scribe.
"	CHARLES CHASE, ...	" Treasurer.
"	A. SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.

M. E. CHARLES FOX, ... Past Grand High Priest.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER, . . . " " "
" CHARLES B. SMITH.
" NEHEMIAH CRAM.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN.
" NELSON RACKLYFT.
" JEREMIAH MARTIN.

The committee appointed on the by-laws, at the annual meeting, reported as follows:

The committee appointed to revise the by-laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, have attended to the service assigned them and respectfully

REPORT:

That they are of opinion that another article should be added to the by-laws, and they recommend the adoption of the following as Article Twenty-eighth, to wit:

ARTICLE TWENTY-EIGHTH.

Communications of the Grand Chapter shall be called by written notice to the Permanent Members thereof and to the first three officers of Subordinate Chapters, left at their dwelling-house or place of business, or addressed to them by mail, fourteen days before the time of holding the same; which notice shall be given by the Grand Secretary, or, if the office of Secretary be vacant, by any member appointed for the purpose by the officers directing the communication to be called. And if, at any time, the Grand Chapter shall be destitute of the officers authorized by Article Third to call a meeting of the same, any Past Officer of the Grand Chapter, upon the written application of three members, may direct one of such applicants to give notice, in manner aforesaid, of a communication of the Grand Chapter, to be held at such time and place as he may designate.

And the committee further recommend that the Rules and Regulations for the government of the Charity Fund be altered and amended as follows, viz:

First. By striking out all in Article First, after the word *Chapter*, which last occurs in that article.

Secondly. By striking out Article Second and substituting therefor the following, viz:

ARTICLE 2D. The Charity Fund shall be under the direction of the first four officers and Secretary of the Grand Chapter, who shall invest the accruing charity funds in such manner as they shall deem most safe and productive; and no part of the principal of said Fund shall be expended at any time, except for the payment of the debts of the Grand Chapter; nor shall any part of the interest be appropriated, except for objects of masonic benevolence and charity or for the increase of said Fund.

And, thirdly, by striking out Article Third and substituting therefor the following, viz:

ARTICLE 3D. All interest arising from said Fund, unappropriated to objects of charity, at the annual meeting of the Trustees shall be added to the principal, unless the Grand Chapter shall otherwise direct.

All which is respectfully submitted, by order of the committee.

JOHN L. MEGQUIER, *Chairman.*

The foregoing report having been read, on motion,

Voted, That the same be accepted, and the alterations by them recommended be adopted.

The M. E. G. H. Priest announced the following appointments:

E.	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	*Grand Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
"	ELEAZER WYER,	" "
"	NEHEMIAH CRAM,	" "
"	OLIVER B. DORRANCE,	" "
Rev.	JOS. P. FESSENDEN,	" *Chaplain.*
"	SAMUEL JOHNSON,	" "
"	D. CHISMAN,	" "
"	F. PARKER,	" "
	JEREMIAH MARTIN,	" *Sentinel.*

On motion of M. E. JOHN L. MEGQUIER,

Voted, That the sum of ten dollars be presented to the Grand Secretary for his past services in this Grand Chapter.

Having completed the business for which it was convened, the Grand Chapter was closed without ceremony.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

1837.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 17, 1837.

The Grand Chapter convened agreeable to public notice in the *Evening Advertiser*, and also by printed notifications sent to members residing in the city,

M. E. OLIVER GERRISH, G. H. Priest, in the chair.

The Treasurer made his annual report, which was read and accepted.

The members then proceeded to the choice of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following M. E. Companions were announced as duly elected:

M. E. OLIVER GERRISH,	*Grand High Priest.*
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
" DAVID BURBANK,	*Grand King.*
" SETH BIRD,	" *Scribe.*
E. CHARLES CHASE,	" *Treasurer.*
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following appointments from the chair:

E. OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	*Grand Marshal.*
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
" ELEAZER WYER,	" "
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	" "
" OLIVER B. DORRANCE,	" "

Rev. JOSEPH P. FESSENDEN,	*Grand Chaplain.*
" STEPHEN LOVELL,	" "
" EPHRAIM WILEY,	" "
" FREEMAN PARKER,	" "
Comp. ISAAC DAVIS,	" *Sentinel.*

On motion,

Voted, To dispense with the installation of the Grand Officers.

Voted, That the sum of Two Dollars and twenty-five cents be appropriated to defray the expenses of advertising, printing, and notifying this meeting; and in addition, that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the Grand Secretary Five Dollars as compensation for his services the last year.

The Grand Chapter was then closed without ceremony.

ARTHUR SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

1838.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 15, 1838.

Met agreeably to a notice in the *Portland Advertiser*, and notifications distributed among the members of this Grand Chapter. In the absence of the presiding officer, M.E. Comp. JOHN L. MEGQUIER was called to the chair.

Prior engagements and sickness of some of the members of the Grand Chapter, were the means of preventing a quorum from attending this evening: whereupon it was

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter separates, it adjourn to meet in this place on Wednesday evening, Jan. 24th, at six o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

A. SHIRLEY, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Jan. 24, 1838.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine met agreeably to adjournment on the 16th inst.

PRESENT.

M.E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" King, *pro tem.*
"	SETH BIRD, ...	" Scribe.
"	CHARLES FOX, ...	" Treasurer, *p. t.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

The Grand Treasurer being absent from the city, no report of the state of our funds was made to the Grand Chapter.

The Companions proceeded to the choice of officers for the ensuing year. Comp's OLIVER S. HARTSHORN and CHARLES B. SMITH were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for officers: who reported the following Companions as duly elected, viz:

M. E. OLIVER GERRISH,	*Grand High Priest.*
E. CHARLES CHASE,	*Dep. Grand H. Priest.*
" DAVID BURBANK,	*Grand King.*
" SETH BIRD,	" *Scribe.*
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	" *Treasurer.*
" A. SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

On motion of M. E. Comp. C. B. SMITH,

Voted, That the sum of Six Dollars be allowed Comp. A. SHIRLEY for his services as Grand Secretary for the year past, and that Four Dollars be allowed Comp. ISAAC DAVIS for his services as Grand Sentinel to this date.

The M. E. Grand High Priest made the following appointments, which he announced from the chair, viz:

E. OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	*Grand Marshal.*
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
" ELEAZER WYER,	" "
" NEHEMIAH CRAM,	" "
" OLIVER B. DORRANCE,	" "
E. & Rev. JOSEPH P. FESSENDEN,	" *Chaplain.*
" E. WILEY,	" "
" FREEMAN PARKER,	" "
" D. CHISMAN,	" "

On motion of E. Comp. C. B. SMITH,

Voted, To dispense with the usual ceremony of investing the Grand Officers with the insignia of their office.

Having completed the business of this annual meeting, the Grand Chapter closed without ceremony.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

1839.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 23, 1839.

Met agreeably to a notice in the *Portland Advertiser*, and notifications distributed among the members of this Grand Chapter.

PRESENT.

M. E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" King, *pro tem.*
"	SETH BIRD, ...	" Scribe.
"	CHARLES FOX, ...	" Treasurer, *p. t.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

The Grand Treasurer being absent from the city, no report of the state of our funds was made to the Grand Chapter.

The Companions proceeded to the choice of officers for the ensuing year, and the following Companions were duly elected:

M. E.	DAVID BURBANK,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	CHARLES CHASE,	*Dep. G. H. Priest.*
"	SETH BIRD,	*Grand King.*
"	O. B. DORRANCE,	" *Scribe.*
E.	J. L. MEGQUIER,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

On motion of E. Comp. C. B. SMITH,

Voted, That the sum of Six Dollars be allowed Comp. A. SHIRLEY for his services as Grand Secretary the past year, and that Four Dollars be allowed Comp. ISAAC DAVIS for his services as Grand Sentinel to this date.

The M. E. Grand High Priest made the following appointments, which he announced from the chair, viz:

E.	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	*Grand Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
"	ELEAZER WYER,	" "
"	JEREMIAH MARTIN,	" "
"	DAVID STACKPOLE,	" "
E. & Rev.	J. P. FESSENDEN,	" *Chaplain.*
"	EPHRAIM WILEY,	" "
"	F. PARKER,	" "
"	D. CHISMAN,	" "

On motion,

Voted, To dispense with the usual ceremony of investing the Grand Officers with the insignia of their offices.

Having completed the business of this annual meeting, the Grand Chapter closed without ceremony.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

1840.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 15, 1840.

The Grand Chapter convened agreeable to a notice in *Portland Advertiser*, and notices distributed among the members.

PRESENT.

M. E.	DAVID BURBANK, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	SETH BIRD, ...	" King.
E.	A. SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ...	
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	
"	CHARLES FOX, ...	
Comp.	JEREMIAH MARTIN, ...	
"	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	Grand Sentinel.

On motion, Comp's SETH BIRD and JEREMIAH MARTIN were chosen a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, and the following were reported as duly elected:

M. E.	DAVID BURBANK,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	CHARLES CHASE,	*Dep. G. H. Priest.*
"	SETH BIRD,	*Grand King.*
"	OLIVER B. DORRANCE,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

The Grand High Priest then announced from the chair the following Companions to fill the offices annexed to their respective names:

Comp. O. S. HARTSHORN,	*Grand Marshal.*
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
" ELEAZAR WYER,	" "
" JEREMIAH MARTIN,	" "
" DAVID STACKPOLE,	" "
Rev. & E. J. P. FESSENDEN,	" *Chaplain.*

E. Comp's Oliver Gerrish and Charles Fox were appointed a committee to examine the books of our late worthy Comp. John L. Megquier, Treasurer of this Grand Chapter: who attended to that duty and reported that the funds in our hands, subject to the disposition and control of this Grand Chapter, consists of one share in the Canal Bank, and eight dollars and twenty-eight cents belonging to the Charity Fund.

After some desultory conversation respecting the expense attending the meetings of the Chapter, Comp's J. M. Gerrish, Charles Fox and Oliver Gerrish were appointed a committee to enquire into the expediency of revising the by-laws: who reported that the third article of the by-laws be so altered as to provide that the annual communications of this Grand Chapter shall hereafter be holden at Portland, on the third Monday of October annually, at seven o'clock p. m.: which report was adopted.

On motion,

Voted, To pay Comp. A. Shirley Two Dollars, and Comp. Isaac Davis Two Dollars and fifty cents, for expenses incurred in relation to this meeting.

Having completed the business of this annual meeting, the Grand Chapter closed without ceremony.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

In 1841, 1842 and 1843, no Convocation held.

ANNUAL MEETING.

1844.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 15, 1844.

Doings of the annual meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the State of Maine, convened by virtue of a warrant from M. E. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ESQ., and published three weeks successively in the *Portland Advertiser*, and by printed notifications directed through the Post Office to the members of this Grand Council—a copy of which warrant being in the words following, viz:

To JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ESQ., *one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Cumberland:*

The undersigned, members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, represent that said corporation is destitute of officers authorized to call meetings of the same, and they therefore request you to issue your warrant to one of the subscribers, requiring him to notify a meeting of said corporation, to be holden in Masons' Hall, in Portland, on Monday, the 15th day of January, A. D. 1844, at 7 o'clock P. M., by publishing the same three weeks successively in the *Portland Advertiser*, for the purpose of electing the officers required by the by-laws of said corporation to be elected at the annual meeting thereof, and for the purpose of transacting such other business as may be legally transacted under the by-laws of the corporation at its annual meeting.

A. SHIRLEY,
N. RACKLYFT,
OLIVER GERRISH.

Portland, December 12, 1843.

[L. S.] STATE OF MAINE.

CUMBERLAND, SS.

To ARTHUR SHIRLEY, *of Portland, in said County,* GREETING:

You are hereby required to notify a meeting of the corporation named in the foregoing application, to be holden at the time and place and for the purposes in said application expressed.

Given under my hand and seal, at Portland, the 15th day of Dec., A. D. 1843.

JOSEPH M. GERRISH, *Justice of the Peace.*

In accordance with the foregoing, I hereby notify the members of the Grand Chapter and the officers of subordinate Chapters in this State to meet at the time and place above named, for the purposes set forth in the foregoing application.

December 15, 1843. A. SHIRLEY.

The members having assembled agreeably to the foregoing warrant, the meeting was called to order by E. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, ESQ., who presided until a Secretary and Grand High Priest were elected.

The Companions thus elected were

ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	*Grand Secretary.*
M. E. CHARLES FOX, ESQ.,	*Grand High Priest.*

After the Grand Secretary was declared duly elected he took the oath of office, as follows:

STATE OF MAINE.

CUMBERLAND, SS. PORTLAND, January 15, 1844.

Then personally appeared ARTHUR SHIRLEY, and made oath that he will faithfully and impartially perform the duties of Secretary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, to which he has been chosen for the current year.

Before me,

JOSEPH M. GERRISH, *Justice of the Peace.*

M. E. Comp. Fox being present, took the chair, and the members proceeded to elect the remainder of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

The offices were filled as follows, viz:

E. JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
" JAMES C. CHURCHILL,	*Grand King.*

E.	ZINA HYDE,	*Grand Scribe.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
Rev.	JOHN H. INGRAHAM,	" *Chaplain.*
"	EPHRAIM WILEY,	" "
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	" "
E.	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH,	" "
Comp.	ISAAC INGERSOLL,	" "
"	STEPHEN SWETT,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	" *Sentinel.*

After the Grand Chapter had thus organized, on motion, it was

Voted, That the 11th Article of the by-laws be so amended, as that no Chapter under this jurisdiction be allowed to confer the several degrees in its gift for a less sum than Twenty-three Dollars.

On a similar motion, it was

Voted, That the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter shall pay for the support thereof, into the hands of the Grand Treasurer, annually, the sum of Nine Dollars, and the sum of Two Dollars for every candidate who shall receive all the degrees that said Chapter can legally confer, and in proportion for each of said degrees, as said Chapter may receive therefor; and on payment of said fees, each Chapter shall be entitled to receive one Diploma for each candidate so exalted.

On motion,

Voted, That E. Comp's CHARLES FOX, JOSEPH M. GERRISH, and ELEAZER WYER, be a committee to examine the by-laws, and report at the adjournment of this Grand Chapter if they need any further amendment.

Having completed the business of this annual meeting, the Grand Chapter adjourned to the third Monday evening in February next.

Adjourned accordingly.

ARTHUR SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ADJOURNED MEETING.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Feb. 19, 1844.

The members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, met agreeably to adjournment, but finding Mount Vernon Chapter in session, with considerable work on their hands, agreed to adjourn to the third Monday in March next, when the Committee on the By-Laws are expected to report, not being ready this evening.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

[No record of this adjourned meeting.]

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Nov. 4, 1844.

A communication of the Grand Chapter was held this evening, by invitation of the members of Mount Vernon Chapter, for the purpose of installing, in ample form, the officers elect of that body.

PRESENT.

M. E.	CHARLES FOX,	Grand High Priest.
"	FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Dep. G. H. Priest, *p. t.*
"	JAMES C. CHURCHILL,	Grand King.
"	SAMUEL CHASE,	" Scribe, *p. t.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY,	" Treasurer, *p. t.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" Secretary.
Rev.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	" Chaplain.
M. E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	
E.	CHARLES B. SMITH,	
	ISAAC INGERSOLL,	
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS,	Grand Sentinel.

The Grand Chapter, thus organized, proceeded to install the officers elect, as follows:

M. E.	Nelson Racklyft,	*High Priest.*
"	Charles B. Smith,	*King.*
"	Joseph Smith,	*Scribe.*
"	Oliver Gerrish,	*Treasurer.*
Comp.	Seth Bird,	*Secretary.*
"	Alexander H. Putney,	*R. A. Captain.*
"	Daniel Winslow,	*Captain of the Host.*
"	Isaac Ingersoll,	*Principal Sojourner.*
"	Marcian Seavey,	*Master of the 3d Vail.*
"	William Allen,	*Master of the 2d Vail.*
"	Charles Fobes,	*Master of the 1st Vail.*
"	Isaac Davis,	*Sentinel.*

On this occasion there were present, not only the members of Mount Vernon Chapter and visiting Companions, but also the members of Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges, who attended during the interesting ceremonies of the occasion, which were interspersed with appropriate music by the Brethren.

After completing the business for which the Grand Chapter was convened, the seats occupied by the Grand Officers were vacated for the use of the newly installed officers of Mount Vernon Chapter.

A. SHIRLEY, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1845.

STATE OF MAINE.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 13, 1845.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine was convened this evening in Masons' Hall, Portland, by virtue of a notice in two public papers.

PRESENT.

M.E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL,	Grand	High Priest.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	"	King, *pro tem.*
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL,	"	Scribe, "
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	"	Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	"	Secretary.
Comp.	A. H. PUTNEY,	"	Marshal, *p. t.*
"	STEPHEN SWETT,	"	Steward.
"	SETH BIRD,	"	"
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	"	Sentinel.

VISITORS.

Comp. SAMUEL CHASE.
" JAMES MCARTHUR.
" JAMES R. MILLIKEN.
" JOHN B. COYLE.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be a committee to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and report at this meeting.

He reported that the Treasurer had the sum of $70.78 at the disposal of the Grand Chapter. He reported, also, that two bills

for advertising the last two annual communications of this Grand Chapter, amounting to $3.25, a bill for two quires notifications, of $1.50, and Comp. ISAAC DAVIS, for tyling, etc., the last two years, for $2.00, amounting to $6.75, be allowed and paid by the Grand Treasurer: which report was accepted.

On motion of E. Comp. OLIVER GERRISH,

Voted, That the sum of Six Dollars be presented to the Grand Secretary, in full for his services to this date.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to offer, or cause to he offered, $10.00 to any one who will produce, in a perfect state, the plate of the Diploma of this Grand Chapter, which is missing.

No return having been received from Montgomery Chapter, at Bath, the Grand Secretary was directed to write the officers of that Chapter, requiring them to discharge this duty, agreeably to the provisions of the by-laws of this Grand Chapter.

The members then proceeded to the election of officers.

Comp. A. H. PUTNEY was appointed a committee to receive, sort, and count the votes; who reported the following M. E. Companions as duly elected for the ensuing year, viz:

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES, of Bath,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	JOHN P. BOYD,	*Grand King.*
"	JNO. C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick,	" *Scribe.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

The Grand High Priest elect then announced the following appointments from the chair, viz:

Rev.	JOHN H. INGRAHAM, of Augusta,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, of Westbrook,	" "
"	WILLIAM A. DREW, of Augusta,	" "
Comp.	FREEMAN BRADFORD,	" *Marshal.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Steward.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH,	" "
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL,	" "
"	STEPHEN SWETT,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	" *Sentinel.*

Thus organized, M. E. Grand High Priest OLIVER GERRISH in in the chair, the newly elected officers were duly installed into the several offices to which they have this evening been elected.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be a committee to collate and arrange the various votes and amendments of the by-laws, for future reference.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be directed to write to the absent officers of this Grand Chapter, and apprise them of their election this evening.

Adjourned without ceremony.

A. SHIRLEY, *Grand Secretary.*

At a Convention of High Priests, held at Masons' Hall, Portland, March 21, 1845:

PRESENT.

M. E. JOHN B. HAMMATT, President.
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY.
" C. B. SMITH.

Organized by the choice of M. E. JOHN B. HAMMATT, P. H. Priest, as President, and M. E. ARTHUR SHIRLEY, P. H. Priest, as Secretary.

The Order of Priesthood was conferred upon

M. E. NELSON RACKLYFT, H. P. Mount Vernon Chapter;
" JAMES C. CHURCHILL, G. H. P. Grand Chapter;
" OLIVER GERRISH, P. G. H. P. " "

And they were duly anointed as such.

ARTHUR SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1845.

[NOTE. The time for holding the annual meeting was changed, in 1840, from January to October, but no meetings were held in 1841, 1842 and 1843. In 1844 and 1845, meetings were convened in January by public notice, in conformity to State laws regarding corporations, and officers were elected. In October, 1845, the regular annual meeting, as provided in the by-laws, was held. At this meeting the time was changed back to January, but a vote was passed providing that the change should not go into operation until January, 1847, and officers were elected to hold over until that time.]

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, October 20, 1845.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, . .	Grand High Priest.
"	THOS. S. BOWLES, ...	Dep. G. H. Priest.
"	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, . .	Grand Scribe.
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, . . .	" Secretary.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, ...	" Chaplain.
"	FREEMAN BRADFORD, . .	" Marshal.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, . . .	" Steward.
"	CHAS. B. SMITH, ...	" "
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL, ...	" "
"	STEPHEN SWETT, . . .	" "
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

E. Comp. JOSEPH SMITH, Scribe of Mount Vernon Chapter.
M. E. NELSON RACKLYFT, High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter.
Comp. SETH BIRD, Permanent Member.
And nine visitors, members of Mount Vernon Chapter.

E. Comp's JOSEPH SMITH, NELSON RACKLYFT and OLIVER GERRISH, were appointed a Committee on Credentials, who reported that there was no one present acting as proxy to any other Body.

The committee appointed at the last annual meeting on the by-laws reported several amendments and two new articles to be added, which was accepted. The new code of by-laws was finally passed.

On motion,

Voted, That the Article providing for the change of time designated for holding the annual meeting, shall not go into operation until January, 1847.

E. Comp. OLIVER GERRISH was appointed a committee to superintend the printing of two hundred copies of by-laws—the code adopted this evening.

Comp's FREEMAN BRADFORD, C. B. SMITH and JOSEPH SMITH, were appointed a committee to examine accounts, who reported on the Treasurer's account, and in favor of allowing A. SHIRLEY'S and the Grand Sentinel's bills, which was accepted and the report placed on file.

The committee appointed last year to search for the plate of the Diploma, reported that it could not be found: whereupon Comp. OLIVER GERRISH was appointed a committee to procure a new plate, and have fifty copies of Diplomas printed for subordinate Chapters.

A petition from Montgomery Chapter, praying that the meetings of that Chapter be hereafter held at Bath and Brunswick, as will best accommodate the Companions of those two places, was received, and committed to E. Comp's THOMAS S. BOWLES, FREEMAN BRADFORD, and CHARLES B. SMITH.

Voted, To proceed to the choice of officers for the ensuing year.

Comp's F. BRADFORD and I. INGERSOLL were appointed a committee to receive, sort, and count the votes; who reported the following E. Companions as duly elected:

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, Portland,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES, Bath,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREY, Brunswick,	*Grand King.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, Portland,	" *Scribe.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Portland,	" *Secretary.*

The Grand High Priest then announced from the chair the following appointments:

Rev.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	CYRIL PEARL,	" "
"	GERSHOM F. COX,	" "
Comp.	FREEMAN BRADFORD,	" *Marshal.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY,	" *Steward.*
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL,	" "
"	STEPHEN SWETT,	" "
"	ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	" *Sentinel.*

Comp's C. B. Smith, Alex. H. Putney and Freeman Bradford, were appointed a committee to inquire into the expediency of granting a warrant for conferring the orders of Royal Master, Select Master, Secret Master, and Super-Excellent Master.

Voted, That the ceremony of installation of the Grand Officers be in public, and that it shall take place on the first Monday in November, and that all Royal Arch Masons be invited to bring with them the females of their families.

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter adjourn, it adjourn to meet on Thursday evening next, at half past six o'clock.

M. E. Comp. Bowles declined serving on the committee respecting the Bath petition, and Comp. Putney was substituted.

A. SHIRLEY, *G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, October 23, 1845.

The Grand Chapter of Maine met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JAMES C: CHURCHILL, . .	Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" King, *p. t.*
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL, . . .	" Scribe, *p. t.*
"	STEPHEN SWETT, ...	" Treasurer, *p. t.*
"	A. SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

Comp's SETH BIRD, ASA BAILEY, JOHN B. COYLE, JOHN DAIN.

On motion,

Voted, That all Royal Arch Masons, in good and regular standing as such, have permission and are invited to take seats in the Grand Chapter during its present session.

Resolved, That all sums due this Grand Chapter from subordinate Chapters be, and they are hereby, remitted previous to January 1, 1844; but such subordinate Chapters shall be holden to pay all dues and fees which have, in accordance with the by-laws, accrued since that date.

Voted, That Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH and ALEX. H. PUTNEY be a committee to correspond with Companions hitherto connected with subordinate Chapters, and endeavor to procure such information in relation to their welfare and future prospects as may be in their power, and report at a future meeting of this Grand Chapter.

Voted, That the committee who is charged with the printing of the by-laws be required to have 150 copies of the proceedings of this annual meeting printed and bound with the by-laws, the proceedings to include such other information as he, with the Grand High Priest, may deem useful to the Fraternity.

Voted, That this Grand Chapter hold another communication on the 22d day of June next.

On motion of Comp. BIRD,

Voted, That the sum of Five Dollars be allowed the Grand Secretary, and Four Dollars to the Grand Sentinel, in full for their services to this date.

On motion of Comp. PUTNEY, the following Preamble and Resolution were passed, and ordered to be entered on our Journal:

WHEREAS it has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, since the last annual meeting of this Grand Chapter, to remove from his earthly labors our late M. E. Grand High Priest CHARLES FOX, ESQ., who had long stood as a pillar in this department of the Masonic Temple, rendering himself eminently useful to the Fraternity, a valuable citizen, and an honest man: therefore

Resolved, That we deeply deplore his loss, and sympathize with his bereaved Widow and Family; and that the officers composing the Grand Council of this Grand Chapter be requested to address a letter of condolence to the widow of our late Companion, and assure her of the sympathy induced by this afflictive dispensation, and that the sentiments of friendship and esteem entertained by the Fraternity will long be held in grateful remembrance.

The following report was presented, and accepted:

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

PORTLAND, Oct. 23, 1845.

The committee appointed to consider the subject of making provision for conferring the several degrees of Select Master, Royal Master, Secret Master and Super-Excellent Master, under the authority of this Grand Chapter, have attended to the duties assigned them, and report:

That formerly there existed in this city a Council regularly organized for conferring these several degrees, independent of this Grand Chapter, or any other organized body claiming jurisdiction over them: that in January, 1829, the Grand Chapter, with the consent of said Council, assumed jurisdiction of said degrees, as appears by certain resolutions then adopted, and made provision for the conferring of the same by the several subordinate Chapters, whenever they should be duly qualified, and authorized so to do by a warrant from the Grand Chapter.

But the committee find that no Chapter under this jurisdiction has ever yet received a warrant from the Grand Chapter for that purpose; and they are satisfied also that no Chapter in this State, as a body, possesses the necessary information in reference to these degrees to confer them in a proper manner. They also believe that were the subordinate Chapters authorized to confer them, and were they every way competent to do so, their other ordinary business would frequently be such as to interfere with and prevent in a great measure the just and proper cultivation of those degrees.

The committee therefore, after due reflection upon the subject, have come to the conclusion that it would be better, instead of authorizing subordinate Chapters to confer said degrees, to grant warrants for holding regular Councils for that purpose, whenever it may be deemed fit, on the application of a suitable number of Companions qualified to confer the same.

And for this purpose, the committee recommend the adoption of the following Resolutions.

All which is respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH,
ALEX. H. PUTNEY, } *Committee.*

RESOLVES

In reference to organizing Councils for conferring the degrees of Royal Master, Select Master, Secret Master, and Super-Excellent Master.

1st. *Resolved,* That the second, third, fourth and fifth Resolutions adopted by the Grand Chapter on the 19th day of January, 1829, relative to appendant orders, be, and the same are hereby rescinded.

2d. *Resolved,* That the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master, of Secret Master and Super-Excellent Master, appendant to the Royal Arch degree, being now under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, may hereafter be conferred, within this jurisdiction, only in regularly organized Councils established for that purpose.

3d. *Resolved,* That on the application of not less than five regular Royal Arch Masons of good standing residing in this State, and possessing a competent knowledge of the foregoing degrees, the Grand High Priest or his Deputy shall have power, if he shall deem it expedient, to grant them a Warrant to form and open a Council for conferring the said degrees of Royal and Select Master, and of Secret and Super-Excellent Master, upon such worthy Royal Arch Masons as may apply therefor, upon the payment of not less than two dollars for said several degrees.

4th. *Resolved,* That every Council that shall hereafter be established agreeably to the foregoing Resolution shall make annual returns to the Grand Chapter at the annual meeting thereof, stating the names of all candidates by them received during the preceding year, and the degrees conferred upon them severally; and pay to the Grand Treasurer, for the use of the Grand Chapter, one dollar for every candidate who shall have received said several degrees therein.

The following report was submitted:

The committee appointed to consider the subject of the petition of Montgomery Chapter, at Bath, praying for permission to hold the meetings of said Chapter a portion of the time in the town of Brunswick, as said Chapter may from time to time vote, have attended to the duties with which they were charged, and report:

That they have carefully examined the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, and the by-laws of this Grand Chapter, in reference to the subject matter of said petition, and find nothing

in either which, in their opinion, militates against the proceedings prayed for. They find, however, a provision in the by-laws of this Grand Chapter, that when a dispensation shall be granted to any Chapter to hold its meetings alternately in the town designated in its charter, and any other town, the sum of fifty-five dollars shall be paid to the Grand Chapter for said dispensation.

The committee have also taken into consideration the present condition and prospects of said Montgomery Chapter, and find that they are destitute of funds—are, in fact, in debt; and that they have no work, nor a prospect of any as now situated, and have compared their situation with the probable prospect of its improvement in case they shall be allowed to hold their meetings a portion of the time at Brunswick, where it is represented to us that there are many worthy Master Masons desirous of receiving the Chapter degrees, and who will undoubtedly offer themselves in case the Chapter shall be allowed to hold its sessions there, as prayed for.

The committee, therefore, believing that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this State would be promoted thereby, respectfully report the following Preamble and Resolutions.

C. B. SMITH,
ALEX. H. PUTNEY, } *Committee.*

Whereas, Montgomery Royal Arch Chapter, at Bath, have petitioned this Grand Chapter for the privilege of holding their meetings and performing their ordinary business and work, during a portion of the time, as said Chapter may decide by vote, in the town of Brunswick; and whereas it appears satisfactorily to this Grand Chapter that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this State would be promoted thereby, therefore

Resolved, That said Montgomery Chapter have the permission of this Grand Chapter to hold its meetings and perform the ordinary work and business of said Chapter in the town of Brunswick, for such portion of the time as the said Chapter may vote so to do, they complying in all respects with the regulations of this Grand Chapter and of the General Grand Chapter of the United States; and that this resolution shall be in force, and this permission extend for and during the pleasure of this Grand Chapter, and no longer.

Resolved, That the fee of fifty-five dollars, contemplated by the by-laws to be paid to the Grand Chapter for a dispensation to hold a Chapter alternately in two different towns, be, and the same is, in this case, remitted.

Which report and resolutions were adopted.

The following copy of the dispensation granted to Montgomery Chapter for holding its meetings a portion of the time in Brunswick is here inserted for future reference:

BY M. E. JAMES C. CHURCHILL,

GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF THE G. R. A. CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF MAINE.

To all exalted and enlightened Companions:

BE IT KNOWN, That whereas a petition has been presented from Comp's THOMAS S. BOWLES, ANDREW HEATH, JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, JOHN C. HUMPHREYS and SCOTT J. TALLMAN, a committee of Montgomery Royal Arch Chapter, located at Bath, in the State of Maine, praying for permission to hold the meetings of said Chapter a portion of the time in the town of Brunswick, and representing that the cause of Royal Arch Masonry would thereby be promoted—

And whereas, by a vote of said Grand Royal Arch Chapter, passed October 23, A. L. 5845, the Grand Officers were authorized and directed to issue a dispensation—

Now, therefore, by virtue of the power vested in me by said vote and by the Constitution, I do hereby authorize and empower said Montgomery Chapter to hold the meetings of said Chapter a portion of the time in the town of Brunswick, and there confer the several degrees in the gift of said Chapter, upon true and worthy candidates, in every respect the same as said Chapter was authorized to do while permanently located at Bath.

And I do further enjoin upon said Chapter to conform in all their doings to the Constitution, Laws and Edicts of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine; and in failure thereof, this dispensation, and the powers herein granted, which are revocable at the pleasure of the Grand High Priest of said Grand Chapter, shall cease and be of no further validity.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, this twenty-eighth day of October, A. L. five thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

By the M. E. Grand High Priest,

A. SHIRLEY, *Grand Secretary.*

INSTALLATION.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, NOV. 3, 1845.

The members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter re-assembled agreeably to the vote passed on the 20th of October last.

The members availed themselves of the privilege of bringing the ladies of their families, to participate with them in witnessing the ceremonies.

M. E. Oliver Gerrish, Past Grand High Priest, opened the meeting, and installed M. E. James C. Churchill, Grand High Priest elect, into the office of Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine.

The several Grand Officers, elected and appointed, were then installed by the presiding Grand High Priest.

The installation was followed by an able and interesting address by M. E. Comp. Samuel Fessenden, Esq.

The Chapter was closed, with appropriate singing.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

It appears by our Foreign Correspondence that the shafts of malice and persecution, aimed at our Institution, have nearly ceased to be hurled, and that a brighter day is breaking in upon us. Intelligence from all parts of our wide-spread community disclose the Bow of Promise, and give assurance of future prosperity. Below is an extract from the Annual Report of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Tennessee, and is given as a specimen of the cheering intelligence which greets us from nearly every point of the compass:

"The progress of the principles of our ancient and time-honored Fraternity is onward; and our Companions, in every portion of our land, are arousing to the performance of the duties so sublimely inculcated by every step taken in Masonry. Old Chapters are reviving and new Chapters are opening; the desire for instruction and improvement has thronged the vestibule of our ancient temple with numerous applicants for the sublimer mysteries of our Order. With this reviving a new era has commenced in our history, and every Companion is incited by a noble spirit of emulation or rivalry to press forward in the good work. The principles we teach have been sanctioned by the wise and good in almost every age of the world; by the patriot and philanthropist, as well as the devout and sincere Christian. Meeting on one common level, no invidious distinctions are recognized, except the distinction of superior knowledge and merit, it becomes us well to protect those inviolable land-marks, handed down to us through so many successive ages, and preserve them unimpaired to generations that shall succeed us."

It has been decided by the General Grand Chapter, held at New Haven in September, 1844, that no subordinate Chapter can legally try its High Priest for disorderly or unmasonic conduct. Such officer is amenable only to the Grand Chapter of the State, or if no such body exist, to the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Our concluding remarks, on the importance of acquiring a knowledge of the beautiful precepts inculcated in the several degrees of Masonry, are in the words of Hon. E. DILLAHUNTY, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, in an excellent address to that body. Although designed for another meridian, the sentiments will meet a hearty response among all the true friends of human happiness everywhere.

"Ignorance is not a mere negation of happiness, but is a positive evil—not a mere waterless and parched channel, but a corrupt and unhealthful fountain, whose turbid streams deform the plains of human life and scatter in their onward course pollution, degradation, and death. It is not only the parent of error, but it has ever been an active agent in generating those crimes which have filled the world with sorrow and mourning. It is the tyrant's stay, and the lever by which the demagogue elevates himself to power; and, allied to the fearful vices of idleness and intemperance, becomes the most deadly foe to human liberty and the rights of man. Blessed, as we are, in the age and country in which we live, each one, according to the principles of justice, should endeavor to contribute something towards the amelioration of the conditions and characters of those around him, and should be ever ready to join, in any efforts, for the consummation of the great ends of social organization. We owe duties as Christians as well as Masons. The liberties we enjoy cost us neither treasure nor blood. They came to us as free as the air that we breathe, or the water that gushes from our hills to slake our thirst and fertilize our valleys. We are bound by every consideration that can influence the human conscience, in its relations to God and Man, to protect and perpetuate them. To do this, we must, by example as well as precept, inculcate the great doctrines of personal industry, self-denial, and self-control, and the necessity of intellectual and moral improvement.

"But while we respect the claims of patriotism, and maintain the importance of the light of education and the morality of the Bible as the only sure means of preserving freedom to mankind, we should not forget that Masonry is entitled to our veneration for its antiquity, to our confidence for its fidelity, and to our gratitude for its deeds of love and mercy to erring man."

STATED COMMUNICATION.

1846.

At a stated communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, begun and holden in Masons' Hall, Portland, June 22, A. D. 1846, R. A. M. 2376:

PRESENT.

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, . .	Grand High Priest.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	" King, *p. t.*
"	ALEX. H. PUTNEY, ...	" Scribe, "
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
Comp.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, ...	" Marshal.
Rev. "	CYRUS CUMMINGS, ...	" Chaplain.
Comp.	HENRY H. BOODY, ...	" Steward.
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL, ...	" "
"	STEPHEN SWETT, ...	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

Several Permanent Members, and the Representatives of Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter, were also in attendance.

On motion,

Voted, That all Companion Royal Arch Masons in regular standing, who may wish to visit the Grand Chapter, be invited to take seats with us during this communication.

M. E. Comp. Charles B. Smith, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, made the following report:

The committee appointed at the late annual communication of the Grand Chapter, to correspond with Royal Arch Masons in various parts of the State, on the subject of the revival and re-organization of the several dormant Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, respectfully report: That in April last they addressed letters upon the subject to distinguished Companions at the several locations of subordinate Chapters, desiring them to consult the members of their several Chapters, as far as practicable, and ascertain their feelings and wishes on the subject of resuming work therein, and to advise us of the result of their doings prior to this meeting. We also forwarded to the above named Companions, and to several others, printed copies of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter at the late annual meeting. We have also seen and consulted with several members of York Chapter, formerly in operation at Saco, and learn from them that there is no prospect of the immediate revival of that Chapter. But we learn from them, with much pleasure, that Saco Lodge, at that place, has recently been revived under the most flattering prospects of abundant success. And from this fact they are led to hope that ere long they will be able to resuscitate their Chapter also.

The committee have to state that they have received no direct answer from either of the Companions addressed as aforesaid, but have learned indirectly that Mount Moriah Chapter, at Bangor, have taken measures to resume their labors under favorable prospects.

Which is respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH, *Per order.*

Which report was accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

M. E. Oliver Gerrish, appointed at a former meeting to procure a plate, and have a suitable number of Diplomas printed for the use of subordinate Chapters, reported that he had attended to that duty, and that this Grand Chapter is indebted for the expense thus incurred in the sum of $117.25; which report was accepted, and placed on file.

A petition was received from Comp. John Judson Ames, of Calais, Maine, and nine others, for a dispensation for a new Chapter at that place; which petition was referred to a committee of three, consisting of Comp's Charles B. Smith, Freeman Bradford and Henry H. Boody: which committee subsequently reported that the prayer of the petition be granted,

and that a dispensation be issued to the petitioners when they shall have furnished the proper evidence of masonic ability required by the by-laws of this Grand Chapter, and are approbated by the Chapter nearest its intended location. Which report was accepted and placed on file.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Chapter be authorized to borrow a sum of money sufficient to discharge its outstanding debts.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in solemn form.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1847.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, January 12, 1847.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, convened by previous notice in accordance with the by-laws.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, . . .	Grand High Priest.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	" King, *p. t.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY, ...	" Scribe, *p. t.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, ...	" Chaplain.
Comp.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, . . .	" Marshal.
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL, ...	" Steward.
"	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

Thus organized, the Grand Chapter was opened in ample form.

Present, also, E. Comp. SETH BIRD, and other Permanent Members of the Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Credentials was then appointed, who reported Comp. WILLIAM ALLEN as proxy to the High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter.

On motion,

Voted, That Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH and CYRUS CUMMINGS be a committee to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

Which committee exhibited the following statement of the finances of the Grand Chapter:

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Jan. 12, 1847.

The committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, report that they have attended to that duty, and find that he has received during the past year, including a balance on hand at the last settlement, the sum of.....$87.75
That he has paid out during the same time the sum of.....164.20

Leaving a balance against the Grand Chapter of.....$76.45
That there is in his hands belonging to the Charity Fund the sum of....35.28

Making the net sum against the Grand Chapter of.....$41.17

C. B. SMITH,
CYRUS CUMMINGS, } *Committee.*

The above report was accepted and ordered to be placed upon file.

On motion,

Voted, That all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, desirous of visiting during the session of this Grand Chapter, are invited to take seats with us.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to write the several Chapters subordinate to this Grand Chapter, and remind them of their delinquency, and urge upon them the duty of making their annual returns in compliance with the provisions of our by-laws.

On motion,

Voted, To proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Comp's OLIVER GERRISH and CHARLES FOBES were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes, when it was announced that the following Grand Officers were duly elected, viz:

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, Portland,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES, Bath,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, Brunswick,	*Grand King.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, Portland,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Portland,	" *Secretary.*

The Grand High Priest elect then announced from the chair the following appointments, viz:

Rev.	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Westbrook,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	CYRIL PEARL, Harrison,	"	"
"	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	"	"
"	GERSHOM F. COX, Portland,	"	"
Comp.	MOODY F. WALKER, "	"	*Marshal.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY, "	"	*Steward.*
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL, "	"	"
"	ALEX. H. PUTNEY, "	"	"
"	WILLIAM ALLEN, "	"	"
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	"	*Sentinel.*

The Grand Chapter was then closed until the 26th of January, A. D. 1847, then to be convened for the purpose of installing the officers elect.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Jan 26, A. D. 1847.

The Grand Chapter being convened, was opened in usual form.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, . .	Grand	High Priest.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, .	"	King, *pro tem.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, . . .	"	Scribe, "
E.	JOSEPH SMITH, . .	"	Treasurer, *p. t.*
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, . . .	"	Secretary.
Rev.	JAMES PRATT, ...	"	Chaplain.
"	GERSHOM F. COX, . . .	"	"
Comp.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, . . .	"	Marshal.
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL, . . .	"	Steward.
"	WILLIAM ALLEN, . . .	"	"
"	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	"	Sentinel.

The Mount Vernon Chapter was represented by M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, High Priest, and E. JOSEPH SMITH, King.

The M. E. Grand High Priest elect, JAMES C. CHURCHILL, having resigned the office to which he was elected at the Annual

Communication of the Grand Chapter, the members proceeded to fill the vacancy; whereupon M. E. Comp. NELSON RACKLYFT was duly chosen Grand High Priest, but the honor thus conferred having been declined by him, a second ballot was taken, which resulted in the unanimous choice of Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD as Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest elect, having signified his acceptance of the office, was duly installed therein by the Past Grand High Priest.

The installation of the other Grand Officers was deferred to a subsequent meeting of the Grand Chapter.

E. Companion Grand Secretary then offered the following preamble and resolution, which was passed unanimously:

Our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, JAMES C. CHURCHILL, having resigned the chair, which he has filled with great acceptance, and with the entire unanimity of the members of this Grand Chapter for the last two years and upwards, it is with regret and reluctance that we yield to his wishes in this respect: therefore—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to M. E. JAMES C. CHURCHILL, ESQ., for the able and courteous manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this body; and, while we regret his unexpected resignation, we assure him our best wishes accompany him in his retirement; that we fervently commend him to the kind regard of the great Watchman of Israel, whose "eye never slumbers nor sleeps," that he may long live to labor in our beloved vineyard, and to enjoy the blessings of God's common providence.

The M. E. Past Grand High Priest happily responded, and assured the Companions that the step he had taken in resigning the chair did not arise from any diminution of zeal on his part, in the cause of masonry, but from a sincere belief that the course he had taken would better subserve the great interests and prosperity of masonry, which he cherished more and more as he advanced in life. He assured the members of the Grand Chapter that their kind expressions of regard and friendship to him personally were reciprocal; and he hoped the pleasure would be afforded him of witnessing, during his whole life, the same har-

mony and brotherly affection in the whole masonic family that had been extended to him by his Brethren and Companions while honored with the seat he had just resigned.

The Grand Chapter was then closed to February 2, A. D. 1847, then again to assemble for the purpose of installing the Grand Officers elect.

INSTALLATION.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, Feb. 2, A. D. 1847.

The Grand Chapter met and was opened in the usual form.

PRESENT.

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Grand High Priest.
"	JAMES C. CHURCHILL,	Dep. G. H. Priest, *p. t.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH,	Grand King, *p. t.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" Scribe.
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	" Chaplain.
Comp.	MOODY F. WALKER,	" Marshal.
"	ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	" Steward.
"	JOSEPH SMITH,	" "
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL,	" "
"	WILLIAM ALLEN,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	" Sentinel.

There were also present a number of visiting Companions.

The subordinate officers of the Grand Chapter, as announced by the Past Grand High Priest, January 26, A. D. 1847, having been confirmed by the Grand High Priest, they were severally installed, personally or by proxy, agreeably to ancient usage.

Voted, That M. E. Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD, Grand High Priest, be a Committee of Correspondence for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That a special communication of this Grand Chapter be held in Portland, in May next, on such a day as the Grand High Priest shall designate, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to give notice accordingly.

The Grand Chapter was then closed.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 4, A. D. 1847.

In pursuance of public and personal notice, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine convened at 9 o'clock A. M. and organized as follows:

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, . . .	Grand High Priest.
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES, . .	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN C. HUMPHREY, . . .	Grand King.
"	SAMUEL L. VALENTINE, . .	" Scribe, *pro tem.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, . . .	" Secretary.
"	NATHAN C. FLETCHER, . .	" Chaplain.
Comp.	WILLIAM ALLEN, . . .	" Marshal, *pro tem.*

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form.

The Committee on Credentials reported that the following subordinate Chapters within this jurisdiction were duly represented:

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—

M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, High Priest.

Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick, by—

M. E. ABNER B. THOMPSON, High Priest.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—

M. E. SAMUEL L. VALENTINE, High Priest.
E. JOSEPH C. STEVENS, King.
Comp. ELIAS M. PLIMPTON, proxy for E. JOHN WILLIAMS, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, East Thomaston, by—

M. E. NATHAN C. FLETCHER, High Priest.
Comp. W. H. HODGDON, Proxy.

M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, P. G. H. Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maine, and M. E. Joseph M. Gerrish, Permanent Member, were also present.

On motion,

Voted, That all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, desirous of visiting, during the session of this Grand Chapter, be invited to take seats with us.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, as Committee on Foreign Correspondence, then made a communication to the Grand Chapter, from which the following is extracted, and by vote of the Grand Chapter ordered to be published in the printed Proceedings:

M. E. and Excellent Companions:

I take pleasure in announcing to you that throughout our whole jurisdiction the utmost harmony prevails. Several Chapters, within the last two or three years, have resumed their masonic labors under favorable circumstances, and some others are making efforts to throw off the lethargy in which they have slumbered; and I am happy to say that nothing has occured to impede in the least the progress of the craft in their masonic labors.

During the past year, an application was made to our M. E. Companion, my immediate predecessor, by our Companions in Calais and vicinity, for a dispensation to open and form a Chapter in that place. Owing to their remote distance from the nearest Chapter, the pre-requisite qualifications required by our by-laws have not yet been duly certified to our Grand Secretary. The zeal of our Companions in that portion of the State is truly commendable, and no unnecessary impediment will be thrown in the way to granting a dispensation. The returns of our subordinate Chapters in Portland and Bangor, and the information transmitted to me from the High Priests of New Jerusalem Chapter, at East Thomaston, and of Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick (the two latter having lately revived their masonic labors), afford satisfactory assurances that, under the guidance of our excellent maxims, we are again tranquilly and harmoniously advancing to the consummation of that high destiny which Masonry claims and inspires in the human heart. The information from our sister Grand Chapters, throughout our whole country, is equally cheering and pleasing. There has been received, within the past year, communications from the Grand Chapters of Connecticut, New York, Ohio, Virginia, Indiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas. I regret that the Proceedings of many of the Grand Chapters have not come to hand, but from such as we have, it is apparent that at no time since the introduction of Masonry into this country has it shone with greater splendor than at the

present time, and in no period or age have such schemes of diffusive charity and benevolence been engrafted on this enlightened and charitable institution.

Among the subjects that have engaged the attention of the General Grand Chapter of the United States and of the several Grand Chapters, is that of conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Master, in subordinate Chapters within their several jurisdictions. On the one hand it is contended that those degrees should be conferred in Chapters only, and on the other that they more appropriately belong to Councils, and should be kept separate and distinct from those anciently and originally set apart as the four distinctive grades by which the initiate was conducted within the *vails.* The General Grand Chapter of the United States recommends that those degrees be conferred in subordinate Chapters when no Councils are established, and also recognizes the authority of Councils duly and legally constituted to confer them. The Grand Chapter of Virginia, on the contrary, contends that the conferring of those degrees in Councils is unauthorized by the ancient usages of the craft, and should not be tolerated or continued. The discussion has been mostly confined to their origin, and little has been said in relation to their beneficial tendency, although it has been admitted by all that they form an important link in the chain of events which connects those without the vails to those within it.

The attention of the Grand Chapter of Maine was called to this subject as early as 1828, by a circular addressed to it from the Grand Chapter of Maryland. At the annual communication of this Grand Chapter, held January 16, 1828, the committee to whom was referred the circular letter aforesaid in relation to the degree of *Select Master,* reported that so far as they are able to learn, no obstacle will be presented to take under its care and protection all masonic secrets connected with, or elucidatory of, the Royal Arch degree, not already under the control of the Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment, and to authorize the subordinate Chapters to communicate them in regular form. In pursuance of this recommendation, and previous to the action of the General Grand Chapter of the United States upon the subject, the Grand Chapter of Maine, at its annual communication in January, 1829, did resolve that the degrees of Super-Excellent and Secret Master, and the degrees of Royal and Select Master, being now in possession of the officers of this Grand Chapter, and being considered by us as intimately connected with and explanatory of Royal Arch Masonry, shall be conferred on all regular Royal Arch Masons deserving the same by the several subordinate Chapters. It is believed that the first action of the General Grand Chapter upon the subject matter of these degrees was had in September, 1829. That body claimed jurisdiction and authority only over the Royal and Select Masters' degrees. Similar action was had by the General Grand Chapter on the same subject in 1844, and the same resolutions adopted as in 1829. In 1845 our Grand Chapter again took up the question of conferring those degrees, and authorized that

they be conferred in regularly organized Councils within our jurisdiction, established for that purpose. Inasmuch, therefore, as the action of this Grand Chapter is not in conformity to the mode prescribed, or in the number of degrees authorized to be conferred by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and as it differs essentially from all other Grand Chapters throughout the Union, I recommend that the resolutions of this Grand Chapter passed in 1829 and 1845 be modified, and that we take under our jurisdiction such and such only of the foregoing degrees as are placed under our control, agreeably to the recommendation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, under whose jurisdiction we are.

It is with regret that I notice in the proceedings that have come to hand, that an unhappy difference exists between the San Felipe de Austin Chapter, Galveston, and another body of Masons in the State of Texas, styling itself the *Grand Chapter of the Republic of Texas.* The former, deriving its charter from the General Grand Chapter of the United States, refused to associate with certain other bodies of Royal Arch Masons, for the purpose of forming a Grand Chapter in that Republic several years ago, on the ground that the Companions forming those other assemblages had no legal masonic right to hold Chapters of Royal Arch Masons. The subject matter of this difference was submitted to a committee of the General Grand Chapter in 1844, who reported in favor of the course adopted by the San Felipe de Austin Chapter. The result has been that our Companions in the State of Texas have multiplied their assemblages, assuming to themselves the name of Chapters without seeking for a warrant or charter from any legally constituted body having the right or power to grant the same, and have formed a Grand Chapter for the State of Texas. Thus constituted, this Grand Chapter cannot recognize it as a legally constituted Masonic body. While we extend to our Brethren individually in the State of Texas the hand of fraternal friendship, we regret that we are compelled to regard the course they have taken, in this particular, as subversive of order and unauthorized by the Constitutions and usages of the craft.

In consequence of its peculiar and irregular organization, the Grand Chapter of Louisiana is not recognized by the General Grand Chapter of the United States. For a more detailed account of its original organization in 1813, and of its subsequent re-organization in 1841, I refer to the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the United States at its last communication in 1844.

The Proceedings of most of the Grand Chapters that have come to hand, are highly instructive, and afford gratifying evidence of increasing prosperity and usefulness. Masonic intelligence is being widely diffused throughout the world. Men of talent, literature, and masonic ability, are devoting their best efforts to uprear the grand pillars of our order, wrought from a material which no vandal hand can either mar or destroy. Our masonic publications and periodicals are erecting temples in every lodge, as beautiful and as glori-

ous as that which graced the reign of our first Most Excellent Grand Master, in which, too, are dispensed the law of benevolence and charity, inculcated by the eminent *Christian patrons* of our art. Such temples are imperishable, and no Chaldean or Roman conqueror can mar their beauty or blot out their existence.

On motion,

Voted, That M. E. FREEMAN BRADFORD, R. P. DUNLAP and NATHAN C. FLETCHER be a committee to take into consideration the resolutions relative to the Appendant Orders, adopted January 19, 1829, and October 23, 1845.

Which committee subsequently reported the following resolutions, and the same were adopted by this Grand Chapter:

Resolved, That all resolutions heretofore passed by this Grand Chapter in relation to conferring the degrees of Secret and Super-Excellent Master, and also the Royal and Select Masters' degrees, be and hereby are rescinded.

WHEREAS, The General Grand Chapter of the United States, at their communication in 1829, and also at their communication in 1844, did authorize the Grand Chapters subordinate thereto to take under their jurisdiction the Royal and Select Masters' degrees; *provided,* always, that no Grand Chapter within the limits of which is a Grand Council shall authorize the Royal Arch Chapters under its jurisdictions to confer such degrees without the consent of such Grand Councils—therefore

Resolved, That the Royal and Select Masters' degrees, being now under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, may hereafter be conferred in this jurisdiction in the subordinate Chapters, under warrant from this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That said Chapters be required to charge and receive from such candidates a sum not less than three dollars for conferring said degrees.

The craft were then called from labor to refreshment.

MASONS' HALL, May 4, A. D. 1847, P. M.

The members of the Grand Chapter having met, the Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion of M. E. R. P. DUNLAP,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter should be represented in the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, to be held in the city of Columbus, Ohio, on the second Tuesday of September next.

On motion,

Voted, That a committee be raised to take into consideration the expediency of altering and amending the by-laws of this Grand Chapter.

Which committee made the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the subject of an alteration in the by-laws, in regard to the time of its annual communication, beg leave to report:

That they would recommend that the 3d Article of the by-laws be so far amended, as that the annual meetings of the Grand Chapter shall be held on Tuesday next preceding the first Wednesday of May of each year, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the officers for the ensuing year shall be chosen. They also recommend that the 12th Article be so far amended as that all subordinate Chapters shall be required to make up their returns to the first day of April, in order that full and complete returns may be made at the annual communications; and any articles or provisions in the by-laws inconsistent with the aforesaid recommendations are hereby repealed.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, *Chairman.*

The foregoing report was accepted, and the amendments therein recommended were adopted.

Voted, That the Grand Officers elected for the current year, be requested to hold their offices until the annual communication in May, 1848.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to procure one hundred copies of Diplomas for the use of the subordinate Chapters.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in ample form.

A. SHIRLEY, *Grand Secretary.*

CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

At a Convention of Past High Priests held at Masons' Hall, Portland, February 8, 1847, were

PRESENT.

M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH.
" JAMES C. CHURCHILL.
" OLIVER GERRISH.
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY.
" NELSON RACKLYFT.

On motion, it was

Voted, To organize by the choice of M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, ESQ., President, and ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Secretary.

An application having been received from M. E. FREEMAN BRADFORD, ESQ., Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, accompanied with a certificate of his election, for the Order of High Priesthood, the Convention most cheerfully complied with his request and duly anointed him as such.

The Convention having thus completed the business for which they assembled, then separated.

CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 4, A. D. 1847.

A Convention of Past High Priests was organized by the choice of M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, ESQ., for President, and ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Secretary.

PRESENT.

M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH, *President.*
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Brunswick.
" THOMAS S. BOWLES, Bath.
" JAMES C. CHURCHILL, Portland.
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, Portland.
" OLIVER GERRISH, Portland.
" NELSON RACKLYFT, Portland.
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY, *Secretary.*

Applications having been made for the Order of High Priesthood from M. E. SAMUEL L. VALENTINE, High Priest of Mount Moriah Chapter, at Bangor, M. E. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, Past High Priest, and M. E. ABNER B. THOMPSON, present High Priest of Montgomery Chapter, of Brunswick, and also from M. E. NATHAN C. FLETCHER, High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, at Thomaston, accompanied with satisfactory testimonials of their several elections to the office of High Priests, the Convention most cheerfully complied with their requests and duly anointed them as such.

The pleasant services of the evening having been accomplished, the Convention separated with the pleasing hope of re-assembling in a Convention which will never break up, where the God of Abraham presides.

OFFICERS

OF

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER—Portland.

M. E.	Charles B. Smith,	High Priest.
E.	Joseph Smith,	King.
"	Alexander H. Putney,	Scribe.
Comp.	Oliver Gerrish,	Treasurer.
"	Seth Bird,	Secretary.
Rev. "	Cyrus Cummings,	Chaplain.
"	Freeman Bradford,	Capt. of the Host.
"	William Kimball,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	William Allen,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Charles Fobes,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	John B. Coyle,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	James R. Milliken,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Isaac Davis,	Sentinel.

Annual meeting on the third Monday of October.

MONTGOMERY CHAPTER—Brunswick.

M. E.	Abner B. Thompson,	High Priest.
E.	Davis Hatch,	King.
"	Joseph Badger,	Scribe.
Comp.	Theodore S. McLellan,	Treasurer.
"	Ephraim Brown,	Secretary.
"	Samuel S. Wing,	Capt. of the Host.
"	John C. Humphreys,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Giles Bailey,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	John D. Lincoln,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Scott J. Tallman,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Wm. H. Morse,	M. of 1st Vail.

Comp.	John D. Lincoln,	Prudential Com.
"	Charles J. Noyes,	" "
"	R. R. Smith,	" "
"	Robert Bowker,	Steward.
"	Geo. Williston,	"
"	Charles J. Noyes,	Sentinel.

NEW JERUSALEM CHAPTER—East Thomaston.

M. E.	N. C. Fletcher,	High Priest.
E.	J. Balch,	King.
"	R. C. Counce,	Scribe.
Comp.	Charles Holmes,	Treasurer.
"	E. M. Perry,	Secretary.
Rev. "	Charles Baker,	Chaplain.
"	Joel Miller,	Capt. of the Host.
"	Charles Harrington,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	John O'Brien,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	J. D. Barnard,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	F. Conway,	M. of 2d V.
"	Wm. Battie,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	S. G. Dennis,	Steward.
"	Benj. Carr,	"
"	S. B. Dodge,	Sentinel.

Annual meetings are holden in January.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER—Bangor.

M. E.	Samuel L. Valentine,	High Priest.
E.	Joseph C. Stevens,	King.
"	John Williams,	Scribe.
Comp.	Jabez True,	Treasurer.
"	Joseph Leavett,	Secretary.
"	S. B. Deane,	Capt. of the Host.
"	Cyrus Brown,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Samuel B. Brown,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	S. Wingate Carr,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Ebenezer French,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	John S. Sayward,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Joseph R. Lumbert,	Steward.
"	Lewis Hayward,	"
"	Simeon Everton,	Sentinel.

Annual meeting second Thursday in December.

PERMANENT MEMBERS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER OF MAINE.

M. E.	Charles Fox,* of Portland,	P. G. H. P.
"	Robert P. Dunlap, of Brunswick,	"
"	Nathaniel Coffin, of Illinois,	"
"	Samuel Fessenden, of Portland,	P. D. G. H. P.
"	James L. Child, of Augusta,	"
"	Amos Nourse, of Bath,	"
"	L. Sprague, of U. S. Army,	P. G. K.
"	Peleg Sprague, of Massachusetts,	"
"	Horace Seaver, of Boston,	"
"	E. Foote,* of Wiscasset,	P. G. S.
"	Charles B. Smith, of Portland,	"
"	Silas Stearns,* of Bath,	"
"	Samuel K. Gilman, of Hallowell,	"
E. Rev.	Jona. Greenleaf, of Vermont.	
"	Gideon W. Olney,* of Scarborough.	
E.	Joseph M. Gerrish, of Portland,	P. D. G. H. P.
"	William P. Davis,* of the City of New York.	
M. E.	J. L. Megquier,* of Portland,	P. G. H. P.
"	Isaac Gage,* of Portland,	P. G. S.
"	Wm. D. Williamson, of Bangor,	P. G. K.
"	Jesse Robinson, of Waterville,	P. G. H. P.
"	J. H. Sheppard, of Boston,	P. G. S.
"	Wm. Swan, of Portland,	P. G. H. P.
"	Oliver Gerrish, of Portland,	"
"	David Burrank, of Baltimore,	"
"	Seth Bird, of Portland,	P. G. K.
"	Charles Chase, of Baltimore,	P. D. G. H. P.
"	Oliver B. Dorrance, of Boston,	P. G. S.
"	James C. Churchill, of Portland,	P. G. H. P.
"	Zina Hyde, of Bath,	P. G. S.
"	John P. Boyd, of Portland,	P. G. K.
"	Freeman Bradford, of Portland,	G. H. P.
"	Thomas S. Bowles, of Bath,	D. G. H. P.
"	J. C. Humphreys, of Brunswick,	G. K.
"	Nelson Racklyft, of Portland,	G. S.

*Deceased.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1848.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, was held in Masons' Hall, Portland, on Tuesday, the 2d day of May, A. D. 1848, and R. A. M. 2378, at 10 o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD,		Grand High Priest.
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES,		Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,		Grand King.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,		" Scribe.
"	OLIVER GERRISH,		" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,		" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	GERSHOM F. COX,		" Chaplain.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS,		" "
"	CYRIL PEARL,		" "
Comp.	WILLIAM ALLEN,	*as*	" Marshal.
"	ISAAC INGERSOLL,		" Steward.
"	JOHN MILLER,	*as*	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS,		" Sentinel.

Several permanent members, and representatives from all the Subordinate Chapters, working under this jurisdiction, were present.

The Grand Chapter was then opened in the seventh degree, by the M. E. Grand High Priest, in due and ancient form. Prayer by Rev. and E. Comp. GERSHOM F. COX, Grand Chaplain.

On motion of M. E. Comp. CHARLES B. SMITH, it was

Ordered, That all Royal Arch Masons of good standing, who may desire to visit the Grand Chapter, be invited to take seats with us as visitors, during the present Communication.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That the reading of the records of the last Communication be dispensed with, printed copies having been distributed to the members present.

The M. E. G. H. P. then appointed the following Companions a Committee on Credentials, viz: M. E. Comps. JOHN WILLIAMS, Bangor, NATHAN C. FLETCHER, Belfast, and OLIVER GERRISH, Portland, who reported the several Subordinate Chapters were represented as follows:

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—

M. E. ALEX. H. PUTNEY, High Priest.
E. WILLIAM KIMBALL, King.
" JOHN PURINTON, Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick, by—

E. GILES BAILEY, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, East Thomaston, by—

E. SAMUEL LIBBY, King.
Comp. HIRAM SPRAGUE, proxy for M. E. S. G. DENNIS, High Priest.
" JOHN MILLER, proxy for E. D. M. MITCHELL, Scribe.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—

M. E. JOSEPH C. STEVENS, High Priest.
E. JOHN WILLIAMS, King.

The M. E. G. H. P. then made the following communication:

COMPANIONS:

Since the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, there have been received the published Proceedings of the Grand Chapters of Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio, North Carolina, Florida, New York, Tennessee, Missouri, Alabama, Virginia, Michigan, and Maryland; and also the proceedings of the Triennial Communication of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States. In addition to the above, this Grand Chapter also acknowledges the receipt of the report of a Special Committee of the Sovereign Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Louisiana, adopted at the sitting of that body, March 15, 1847.

Among these proceedings, abundant evidence is afforded of the general prosperity of our institution. It should be a matter of gratulation to every good mason, that among the family of Grand Chapters, so few causes of discontent exist, and that a commendable desire is manifested by all, to preserve peace, harmony, and good fellowship. But while such is the state of feeling between the individual Grand Chapters in our Union, it is to be regretted that matters of difference still exist between the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and some few of the State Grand Chapters not under the jurisdiction of the former. The nature of these differences, so far as they relate to the bodies styling themselves the Grand Chapter of Texas and Grand Chapter of Louisiana, were alluded to in a former communication, made by me to this Grand Chapter in May, 1847. At the last Triennial Communication of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, the subject matter of these differences was submitted to committees appointed by that body, whose reports, and the action had thereon, will appear in its printed Proceedings herewith communicated. Owing to the irregular organization of these Grand Bodies, masonic intercourse, both public and private, is interdicted and forbidden, between Royal Arch Masons and the Grand and Subordinate Chapters owing allegiance to and in correspondence with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the associations styling themselves the Grand Chapters of Louisiana and Texas.

The Grand Chapter of Florida refuses to place herself under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, for the alleged reason that it has failed to accomplish the important object of its institution. That Grand Chapter was organized in January, 1847, and its published proceedings have regularly come to hand, and are marked with that distinguished ability which invariably characterize the masonic proceedings of our Brethren and Companions in that State. The convention which assembled for the organization of that Grand Chapter, adopted a constitution and by-laws, conformable, except in a few particulars, to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and also the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Chapter of Florida, duly appreciating the advantages of a masonic head and paramount authority, are disposed to come under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States."

The General Grand Chapter of the United States took action on the subject matter of this resolution, at their last Triennial Communication, and pointed out in a report of their committee, some provisions in the by-laws of the Grand Chapter of Florida, at variance with the General Grand Constitution, recommending their modification. The Grand Chapter of Florida was also requested to furnish the General Grand Council, all the facts within its knowledge, connected with the establishment of the Royal Arch Chapters in Florida, and particularly in relation to the authority from which each received its charter; which being complied with, the General Grand Council

were authorized to recognize that Grand Chapter as under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

To these requirements the Grand Chapter of Florida accedes in part, so far as to show that her organization was effected by the requisite number of regular Royal Arch Chapters; but to the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter she refuses to submit, induced, probably, by a mistaken view of the spirit of action, in which it supposed the General Grand Chapter regarded the application to be incorporated under its jurisdiction. She also feels a reluctance to yield her cherished opinion (adverse to that of the General Grand Chapter), relative to the order in which the degrees of Royal and Select Master should be conferred in the Subordinate Chapters under her jurisdiction. Their committee remark "That they have been taught to believe that the object of the General Grand Chapter was to establish *masonic law*, preserve the ancient land-marks of the order from innovation, and settle and determine a uniform mode of working." That she has failed to accomplish these desirable and important objects, the Grand Chapter of Florida refers to the action of the General Grand Chapter in 1847, requiring amendments in her Constitution, on points, as she alleges, unimportant to the General Grand Chapter, but necessary to the discharge of its own municipal duties and benevolent designs, whilst it has suffered to pass unnoticed the variance that subsists between her own Constitution and a resolution of the General Grand Chapter, passed in 1829, prescribing the *order* in which the degrees of Royal and Select Master should be conferred in Subordinate Chapters.

Proceeding upon these allegations, as set forth in the report of its committee, the Grand Chapter of Florida, at her Annual Communication, in January, 1848, rescinds and annuls the resolution of 1847, and refuses to come under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. That the Grand Chapter of Florida deems the resolution of the General Grand Chapter of paramount importance, is obvious. That she considers that resolution still in force, is evident from the fact of her regarding it as the principal reason for withdrawing her proffered allegiance. How far her own internal dissensions may have furnished her with the motives of action in this particular, may be gathered from the fact that some, under her own jurisdiction, refuse to recognize her authority, solely on the ground that the Grand Constitution of Florida authorizes and directs her subordinates to confer the degrees of Royal and Select Master upon candidates, previous to the Royal Arch Degree. But it must be regarded as somewhat novel, that the only proof she exhibits of the failure on the part of the General Grand Chapter to establish masonic law, consists in her own contumacy in disregarding it.

The introduction of the Royal and Select Master's degrees, among those usually denominated Chapter degrees, is of recent origin, and dates back scarcely a quarter of a century. It is conceded that they are useful, and elucidatory of the Royal Arch; and quite as appropriate and masonic as any which connect those within to those without the *veils*. Nor is it contended

that they want the sanction and commendation of an Eminent Chief and other distinguished members of our Order; for on that account are they largely indebted for the high consideration awarded them by the Fraternity. Their introduction into our Chapters, in the order contended for, is resisted by many as an innovation in the Body of masonry. The General Grand Chapter has sanctioned them as masonic degrees, and has recommended that they be conferred in Chapters subsequent to that of the Royal Arch. But yet, a different practice still prevails among those who acknowledge her jurisdiction. If she has the power has she not wisely forborne to exercise it, and to enforce exact uniformity; regarding it as a matter which, in the enlightenment of the age, and the free and fraternal interchange of masonic views and feelings, will result, in good time, in the establishment of a uniform law, freely and voluntarily acknowledged by all? Diversity of opinion and diversity of action, has been, and must be tolerated among masons, so long as it is evident that those diversities arise from a sincere desire for truth and the right. The traditions of our Order, though essentially the same, transmitted as they have been to us, through a thousand different channels, from past centuries, no earthly power can shape to the same unvarying mould. If the General Grand Chapter has failed, therefore, to establish masonic law and preserve the ancient landmarks of the Order, it is not because she has disregarded the important objects of her Institution, but on account of the action of those who, acknowledging the advantages of a paramount authority and masonic head, are not yet ready to yield to it due obedience.

I apprehend that some amendments in our by-laws may become necessary to be made by you, in order to have them conform to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and perhaps some slight modifications, so as better to subserve the wants and usefulness of the craft throughout our jurisdiction. The Constitution of the General Grand Chapter provides, that the fees for conferring the several degrees in a Chapter, shall not be less than twenty dollars. In 1826, the General Grand Chapter adopted a resolution, authorizing Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of that body, to confer the degrees in said Chapters, on all regularly authorized officiating clergymen, without fees. The provisions of the General Grand Constitution and the Resolve being at variance, the General Grand Chapter, at its last Triennial Communication, referred the matter to a committee, who reported that the resolution in question conflicts with the Constitution, and is therefore void. This report having been accepted, and its recommendations adopted, it becomes necessary that you amend the Eleventh Article of our by-laws, so that it shall conform to the General Grand Constitution.

I also submit to your consideration whether it will not be necessary and advisable to amend the Ninth Article of our by-laws, by reducing the fees required therein for a dispensation or charter to open and hold Subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction. By the Seventh Section of the First Article

the General Grand Constitution, it is provided that the fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter, with subordinate degrees, shall be ninety dollars, and no more; and by the Fourth Section of the Second Article, which relates to State Grand Chapters, power is granted to Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, severally, during the recess of the Grand Chapter, to grant letters of dispensation to open Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, agreeably to the regulations therein named, provided the *same fees* as are required by this Constitution for charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Treasurer. The fee now required by our by-laws, is one hundred and ten dollars, and is at variance with the provisions of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter. In our State, there are many small communities which afford and present excellent locations for Chapters, in which the higher degrees of masonry would be assiduously cultivated, and the benefits of our Institution more diffused, were it not for the expense of procuring charters; the burden of which, at the commencement, must necessarily fall upon a few. For a wise purpose, the old Constitutions of Masonry recommend that our assemblies be composed of but few; and experience teaches us, that in large bodies there is not, and cannot be, that concert and harmony of views and action, so essential to the strength and prosperity of our Institution. While a reduction of the fee for a charter might tend, in numerous instances, to the establishment of Chapters in our small villages, it might also open facilities for forming new Chapters, in those places where the members have increased to an inconvenient and unwieldy number. It may be considered expedient, also, to amend the Seventh Article of your by-laws, limiting the eligibility to the office of Grand High Priest to a less term than three years successively, and to strike out the Sixth Article entire.

There is no provision in our by-laws relative to the surrender of charters from our subordinates after they have ceased working and making returns. The Grand Treasurer is required to have in his care all charters, seals and regalia returned to the Grand Chapter; but neither he nor any other officer of our Grand Chapter is authorized to demand the same of any Chapter which has ceased to make returns of its doings to this body. There are Chapters in this State that have made no returns to this Grand Chapter for many years; and I would recommend that some provision be inserted in our by-laws prescribing under what circumstances charters shall be deemed forfeit and in what manner they shall be surrendered.

During the past year, the General Grand Chapter of the United States held its Triennial Communication in the State of Ohio. At that communication I attended as a representative of your Grand Chapter. Most of the Grand Chapters in the Union were there represented, and an opportunity was afforded of witnessing that masonic friendship, union and zeal, so promotive of the Royal Art. It was gratifying to find, in an assemblage collected from so many remote States, among whom were so many varying characteristics and

views, that its deliberations were conducted with so much kindness, and closed in peace and harmony.

Many supposed grievances, which had been fostered by Brethren far remote, and which had well nigh alienated them in affection, were satisfactorily explained and happily reconciled under the kindly influences of fraternal intercourse, and the bond of our masonic union strengthened and enlarged. Social intercourse is the cement of our masonic edifice; and so long as we assemble at one common altar, and there make our offerings with pure motives, and for the best good of our institution, so long shall we merit the smiles of that great and good Being whom we all adore, and best secure our future prosperity and usefulness.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That the subject matter of the communication just made to this Grand Chapter by the M. E. Grand High Priest be referred to a committee of three, to examine and report thereon at this communication.

And M. E. Comp's N. C. Fletcher, Charles B. Smith and Giles Bailey, were appointed said committee.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That M. E. Comp's John Miller and James C. Churchill be appointed a committee to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary for the past year.

Comp. N. C. Fletcher, of Belfast, presented a petition from nine Royal Arch Masons, for a dispensation or charter authorizing said petitioners to hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and open a Lodge of Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters, in Belfast, accompanied by a recommendation from New Jerusalem Chapter, at East Thomaston, which petition and accompanying papers were referred to a special Committee on Charters and Warrants, consisting of M. E. Comp's John C. Humphreys, Joseph C. Stevens and Cyril Pearl.

The committee to whom was referred the communication of the Grand High Priest, reported that they had examined the same, and recommended that so much thereof as related to the proposed amendments of the by-laws be referred to a special committee, consisting of M. E. Freeman Bradford, Joseph C. Stevens and John C. Humphreys, which report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

Comp. MILLER, from the committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, made the following report, which was accepted:

The committee to whom was referred the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary have attended the duty assigned them and ask leave to report:

That they find the accounts of the Grand Treasurer well vouched and correctly cast, and that there is a balance due from him to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of one hundred and thirty-two dollars and twenty-four cents, and also a balance in his hands of forty-four dollars and twenty-eight cents belonging to the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter. They further report that they find no account with the Grand Secretary.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed,) JOHN MILLER, *Chairman.*

On motion,

Resolved, That Comp's N. C. FLETCHER, J. C. STEVENS and JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, be a committee, whose duty it shall be to report to this Grand Chapter the names of three suitable Companions, who shall take into consideration the manner and mode of working and lecturing in the several subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction, and preserve a uniformity therein.

Comp. HUMPHREYS, from the committee to whom was referred the petition for a new Chapter at Belfast, made the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of our Companions at Belfast and vicinity, praying for a charter or dispensation empowering them to assemble as a regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, in the town of Belfast, Waldo County, respectfully

REPORT.

That they have attended to the duty assigned them, and find that the petition is in form prescribed by our by-laws and the ancient usages of masonry; and that said petition is accompanied by the recommendation of New Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter, vouching for the moral character and masonic ability of the petitioners. They therefore recommend the following:

Resolved, by this Grand Chapter, That a charter be issued to Companions NATHAN C. FLETCHER, TIMOTHY CHASE, ALFRED MARSHALL, ISAAC C. ABBOTT, H. G. O. WASHBURN, SAMUEL HAYNES, DAVID PIERCE, JOB WHITE, and WILLIAM FREDERICK, authorizing them to open and hold a lodge of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, and a Chapter of

Royal Arch Masons, in Belfast, Waldo County, Maine, by the name and style of Corinthian Royal Arch Chapter.

(Signed), JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, *Chairman.*

Which report was accepted and the resolution adopted.

Comp. FLETCHER, from the committee appointed to nominate some suitable Companions, whose duty it shall be to preserve uniformity in the work and lectures, made the following report, which was accepted:

The committee appointed to designate and recommend a committee whose duty it shall be to take into consideration the work and lectures of the several degrees conferred in the subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, for the purpose of preserving a uniformity in the same, have attended that duty and report the names of the following Companions, viz: M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, FREEMAN BRADFORD, and JOSEPH C. STEVENS.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed), N. C. FLETCHER.

In conformity to the 23d Article of the by-laws of the Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest appointed M. E. NELSON RACKLYFT and JOSEPH C. STEVENS a committee to give the lectures in the Mark Master's and Royal Arch degrees in Grand Chapter this afternoon.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter will go into an election of officers for the ensuing year, at half past three o'clock this P. M., at Masons' Hall.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, to re-assemble at three o'clock this P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

MASONS' HALL, Tuesday, May 2, A. D. 1848, 3 o'clock.

The Grand Chapter was then called from refreshment to labor.

The M. E. Grand High Priest in the chair.

Officers, representatives and members as at the forenoon session.

M. E. Comp. Churchill, from the committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, made a further report that said committee had made an examination of the interest account between the Grand Chapter and the Grand Treasurer, and find that there is a balance of interest due the Grand Treasurer of $4.16, and submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That four dollars and sixteen cents, it being the amount of interest on advances, be paid by this Grand Chapter to E. Comp. Oliver Gerrish, Grand Treasurer, and that he be authorized to credit himself in account with that sum.

The hour having arrived for the choice of officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Chapter resolved itself into a committee of the whole for that purpose.

M. E. Robert P. Dunlap in the chair.

Comp's Miller and Stevens were appointed a sub-committee to receive, sort and count the votes.

After having transacted the business assigned them, the committee rose, and reported that the following named Companions had been duly elected to the offices affixed to their respective names:

M. E. FREEMAN BRADFORD,	*Grand High Priest.*
" THOMAS S. BOWLES,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	*Grand King.*
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	" *Scribe.*
" OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	" *Secretary.*

Which report was accepted and the committee discharged.

On motion, it was

Voted, That Comps. Bowles, Purinton and Libby be a committee to examine into the state of the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, and report thereon at this Communication, if practicable.

On motion, it was

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed and authorized to obtain one hundred diplomas for the use of the Subordinate Chapters, and that the

expense thereof be defrayed out of any moneys in his hands, not otherwise appropriated.

M. E. Comp's Nelson Racklyft and Joseph C. Stevens then proceeded to give the lectures in the Mark and Royal Arch degrees, they having been previously appointed for that purpose by the Grand High Priest, agreeably to the 23d Article of the by-laws of this Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Voted, That the installation of the Grand Officers take place this evening, and that all Royal Arch Masons and Master Masons in this city and vicinity, be invited to attend and witness the ceremonies of the occasion.

By order of the Grand Council, the craft were then called from labor to refreshment, to meet again this evening at 7 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

Masons' Hall, Tuesday, May 2, a. d. 1848, 7 o'clock.

The Grand Chapter met and resumed their labors, the M. E. Grand High Priest presiding.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter now proceed to the installation of the Grand Officers elect for the ensuing year.

The Grand High Priest then resigned the chair to M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, who proceeded to install the Grand High Priest elect into the office to which he had this day been elected. This duty was performed in a manner highly gratifying to the Companions and visiting Brethren present, and creditable to the officiating officer.

After his installation, the Grand High Priest announced the following appointments, viz:

Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Westbrook,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	CYRIL PEARL, Standish,	"	"
"	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	"	"
"	GERSHOM F. COX, Portland,	"	"
E.	ABNER B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	"	*Marshal.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY, Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, Bath,	"	"
"	JOHN MILLER, Warren,	"	"
"	SAMUEL L. VALENTINE, Bangor,	"	"
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	"	*Sentinel.*

M. E. Comp. Dunlap then proceeded to the installation of the remaining officers of the Grand Chapter, who were present; after which, the chair was resumed by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

Comp. Purinton, from the committee appointed to enquire into and report upon the state of the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, made the following report, which was adopted:

The Special Committee appointed to enquire into the state of the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, and report thereon, have attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully submit the following report:

The committee have examined the books and documents in the possession of the Grand Treasurer, and find the sum of four hundred and five dollars and nine cents to be justly due from this Grand Chapter to the Charity Fund. This amount includes the sums and interest, borrowed by this Grand Chapter from the Charity Fund, in the years 1831 and 1836. As the above amount is justly due from this Grand Chapter to the Charity Fund, your committee recommend that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the above sum to the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, out of any money that is now or may at any future time be in his hands, not otherwise appropriated.

(Signed,) JOHN PURINTON, THOMAS S. BOWLES, SAMUEL LIBBY, } *Committee.*

On motion, it was

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter be called from labor, it be to resume its session to-morrow morning at seven o'clock.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment.

MASONS' HALL, Wednesday, May 3, 7 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter met and resumed its labor.

PRESENT.

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Grand High Priest.	
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES,	Dep. Grand High Priest.	
"	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand King.	
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	"	Scribe.
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	"	Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	"	Secretary.
Rev. & E.	CYRIL PEARL,	"	Chaplain.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	"	"
"	GERSHOM F. COX,	"	"
E.	CHARLES B. SMITH, as	"	Marshal.
"	JOHN MILLER,	"	Steward.
"	SAMUEL L. VALENTINE,	"	"
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS,	"	Sentinel.

Many permanent members, and a full representation from Subordinate Chapters, were also present.

Prayer by Rev. and E. Comp. CYRIL PEARL, Grand Chaplain.

M. E. Comp. ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY, High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter, extended an invitation to the Grand Chapter to visit Mount Vernon Chapter this evening; which invitation was accepted and arrangements made accordingly.

E. Comp. ABNER B. THOMPSON, now present, being notified of his appointment as Grand Marshal, and having signified his acceptance of the office, was then duly installed by the Grand High Priest.

Comp. CHARLES B. SMITH introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the sum of thirty-five dollars and seventy-eight cents be appropriated from the funds of this Grand Chapter to the payment of one-half of the expenses of the Grand High Priest in attending the Triennial Communication of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, as a delegate from this Grand Chapter, in September last, he having received a like sum as delegate to another body holden at the same time and place.

The Grand Secretary, on leave obtained therefor, then read the proceedings of a Convention of Past High Priests, held in Masons' Hall the evening previous, stating that he was requested and directed by a vote of the Convention, to ask liberty of the Grand Chapter to record its proceedings with those of the Grand Chapter of Maine. Whereupon it was

Voted, That the proceedings of the Convention of Past High Priests be recorded with those of this Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest, from the committee chosen to enquire into the expediency of amending certain Articles in the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, made a report: which report was considered, Article by Article, and, after progressing therein to some extent, the Grand Chapter, after having adopted some few of the amendments proposed, was called off, to re-assemble this evening at seven o'clock.

MASONS' HALL, May 3, 1848, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter was then called from refreshment to labor, the M. E. Grand High Priest in the chair.

Officers and members the same as at the morning session.

The Grand Chapter then resumed the consideration of the by-laws, and Article 9 was so amended as to require that the fees for a Warrant for holding a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and opening Lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, should be ninety-five dollars, instead of one hundred and ten dollars as therein provided; ninety dollars of which shall be for the use of the Grand Chapter, and five dollars for the Grand Secretary, to defray the expense of the Charter or Warrant.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were then offered and severally adopted:

WHEREAS, The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, at its Triennial session in 1844, did authorize the several Grand Chapters

under its jurisdiction to make arrangements for conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Master in Subordinate Chapters, in such States as have no established Grand Councils therein: And whereas it is represented to this Grand Chapter that in several of the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction there are no Royal and Select Masters, but the Representatives thereof, now present, are desirous of being instructed in said degrees, and to have the same legally conferred upon themselves at this Grand Annual Communication, for the purpose of being able to confer them in their respective Chapters, whenever they may be legally authorized so to do—therefore

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter do hereby authorize the several Royal and Select Masters here present to open and hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters, and confer said degrees upon such worthy Royal Arch Masons as the said Council may deem expedient and proper.

Resolved, That the authority hereby conferred shall be exercised by said Royal and Select Masters for this Communication of the Grand Chapter only; and that the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter record the proceedings of the Council with those of this Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, to re-assemble at this place on Thursday evening, May 4, at seven o'clock.

COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND,
Wednesday Evening, May 3, 1848.

By virtue of the authority vested in the several Royal and Select Masters by the foregoing resolutions of the Grand Chapter, a Council of Royal and Select Masters was then organized as follows, viz:

ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Most Illustrious Master.
CHARLES B. SMITH,	Illustrious Master.
STEPHEN WEBBER,	Laureat.
NELSON RACKLYFT,	Master of Exchequer.
ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	Recorder.
FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Master of the Guard.
CYRIL PEARL,	Conductor.
WILLIAM SOMERBY,	S.

The Council, thus organized, conferred the degrees of Royal and Select Master on several Companions, agreeably to the usages of the Order, viz:—Abner B. Thompson, N. C. Fletcher, Samuel L. Valentine, A. H. Putney, Joseph C. Stevens, John Williams, Samuel Libby, Joshua Herrick, Giles Bailey, John Miller, O. A. Merrill, Charles Megquier, Lory Bacon, O. H. Johnson, J. D. Lincoln, Jacob Crooker, Timothy Chase, H. G. O. Washburn, Hiram Sprague, George Small, James R. Milliken, Thomas P. Tufts, James F. Young, Isaac Davis.

The Council was then closed.

Attest: ARTHUR SHIRLEY,
Recorder of the Council and G. S. of the G. C.

MASONS' HALL, May 4, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter was then called from refreshment to labor.

PRESENT.

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, . . .	Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN WILLIAMS, ...	as Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, ...	as Grand King.
"	C. B. SMITH, ...	as " Scribe.
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, ...	" Secretary.
"	A. B. THOMPSON, ...	" Marshal.
Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS, ...	" Chaplain.
"	CYRIL PEARL, ...	" "
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

Several Permanent Members and Representatives of Subordinate Chapters were also in attendance.

Prayer by Rev. and E. Comp. CYRUS CUMMINGS.

The Grand Secretary then read the records of the several preceding sessions of the Grand Chapter, and they were approved.

M. E. Comp. R. P. Dunlap then introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the M. E. Freeman Bradford, Grand High Priest, be requested to procure all such information as he may find practicable in relation to the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, and communicate the same to such officers or members of Subordinate Chapters as have received said degrees, in order that they may be able to confer them correctly; and that his expenses incurred in the performance of this duty be paid by the Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Resolved, That the sum of four dollars be paid to Comp. Isaac Davis, Grand Sentinel, for his services at this Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the consideration of the report of the Committee on the By-Laws, and, after some time spent thereon, the craft were called off, to resume their labors on Monday evening, May 22d, at seven o'clock.

Masons' Hall, May 22, 1848, 7 o'clock p. m.

The Grand Chapter was then called from refreshment to labor, the M. E. Grand High Priest in the chair.

The report of the Committee on the By-Laws was then taken up for consideration, and acted upon, Article by Article; and, after having rejected the proposed amendment to Article fourteen, and made some few verbal alterations, and added thereto an Article providing for the appointment of a Standing Committee on Finance, they were unanimously adopted.

On motion, it was

Voted, That Comp's James C. Churchill, Charles B. Smith and Henry H. Boody be a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

On motion,

Voted, That M. E. Freeman Bradford, Oliver Gerrish and Arthur

SHIRLEY be a committee to superintend the printing of the by-laws and proceedings of the Annual Communication of this Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand High Priest be authorized to grant a dispensation to Royal and Select Masters of any Subordinate Chapter under this jurisdiction, empowering them to confer said degrees of Royal and Select Master on worthy Royal Arch Masons; provided there be not in said Chapter the requisite number, as prescribed in the by-laws of the Grand Chapter, to petition for a warrant for holding said Council.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to dispose of the old plate, formerly used for printing diplomas for Subordinate Chapters, for such sum and in such manner as as he may deem expedient.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine was then closed in due form.

Attest: A. SHIRLEY, *Grand Secretary.*

CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND,
May 2, 1848, 7 o'clock P. M.

A Convention of Past High Priests was organized by the choice of M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP for President, and M. E. ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Secretary.

PRESENT.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, *President.*
" THOMAS S. BOWLES, Bath.
" CHARLES B. SMITH, Portland.
" JAMES C. CHURCHILL, "
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, "
" OLIVER GERRISH, "
" NELSON RACKLYFT, "
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, Brunswick.
" SAMUEL L. VALENTINE, Bangor.
" NATHAN C. FLETCHER, Belfast.
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Portland, *Secretary.*

Applications having been made for the Order of High Priesthood from M. E. JOSEPH C. STEVENS, High Priest of Mount Moriah Chapter, at Bangor, and M. E. ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY, High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter, at Portland, accompanied by satisfactory testimonials of their elections to the office of High Priest, the Convention cheerfully complied with their requests, and duly anointed them as such.

These proceedings were ordered by the Convention to be laid before the Grand Chapter, with a request that they may be recorded with those of that body. After which the Convention separated.

Attest: A. SHIRLEY,

G. Sec'y of G. Chapter, and Sec'y of Convention of P. H. Priests.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

ELECTED AT THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION IN 1848.

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, Portland,	Grand High Priest.
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES, Bath,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, Brunswick,	Grand King.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, Portland,	" Scribe.
"	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" Treasurer.
"	ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Portland,	" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Westbrook,	" Chaplain.
"	CYRIL PEAEL, Standish,	" "
"	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	" "
"	GERSHOM F. COX, Portland,	" "
E.	ABNER B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	" Marshal.
"	HENRY H. BOODY, Portland,	" Steward.
"	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, Bath,	" "
"	JOHN MILLER, Warren,	" "
"	SAMUEL L. VALENTINE, Bangor,	" "
Comp.	ISAAC DAVIS,	" Sentinel.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

M. E.	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, ...	Portland.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, ...	Portland.
"	HENRY H. BOODY, ...	Portland.

INSTALLATION OF CORINTHIAN CHAPTER.

To E. Companion ARTHUR SHIRLEY,
Grand Secretary of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Maine.

Application having been made by the requisite number of Royal Arch Masons residing in Belfast and vicinity, to this Grand Chapter, at its last annual communication in May, 1848, for a Warrant or Dispensation to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, by the name and style of Corinthian Chapter, in the town of Belfast,—and the Grand Chapter having complied with the request, and directed that a Warrant be issued agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners,—I notified the Companions of the new Chapter

that I would meet with them at Belfast, on the fourth of July, 1848, for the purpose of examining their proceedings and by-laws, installing their officers, and dedicating their Chapter.

In the absence of other Grand Officers, I examined their proceedings under the special dispensation that had been granted them, and also their by-laws, on the afternoon of the third of July, 1848; and during that day had exhibited to me satisfactory evidence of the proficiency of the several Companions in the Lectures and Work in the Royal Arch degree. I found the Companions as well skilled in the Lectures as could be expected from the opportunities they have had to perfect themselves. I have no hesitation in saying that, from the known talents of the officers, and the zeal which appears to animate the Companions of the new Chapter, they will abundantly fulfill the expectations of the Grand Chapter.

I found their by-laws conformable to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and their records kept in such a manner as to reflect high credit on the Secretary.

On the evening of the fourth, assisted by M. E. Comp. Albert Case, of Worcester, Mass., and Comp. J. F. Young, of Portland, the ceremonies of installing the officers and dedicating the new Chapter were performed agreeably to masonic usage,—after which an appropriate address was delivered to the Companions present, by M. E. Comp. Case.

The following is a list of the officers of Corinthian Chapter for the ensuing year:

M. E.	Nathan C. Fletcher,	H. P.
E.	Timothy Chase,	K.
"	Alfred Marshall,	S.
Comp.	H. G. O. Washburn,	C. H.
"	Samuel Haynes,	P. S.
"	Ansel Lennan,	R. A. C.
"	William G. Crosby,	M. of 3d V.
"	William Frederick,	M. of 2d V.
"	Benjamin Kelly,	M. of 1st V.
"	Josiah Farrow,	Treasurer.
"	Daniel Howard,	Secretary.
"	Joseph Dennett,	Steward.
"	Isaac Abbott,	"
"	David Pierce,	Sentinel.

You will please place this my report on the files of the Grand Chapter, that it may be brought before that Body at its next communication.

All which is respectfully submitted.

FREEMAN BRADFORD,

July 11, 1848. *G. H. P. of G. R. A. Chap. of Maine.*

True copy. A. SHIRLEY, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1849.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine assembled in Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on Monday, April 30, A. D. 1849, at seven o'clock P. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, . .	Grand	High Priest.
"	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, . . .	"	King.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, . . .	"	Scribe.
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	"	Treasurer.
Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, ...	"	Chaplain.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, ...	"	"
Comp.	ABNER B. THOMPSON, . .	"	Marshal.
"	H. H. BOODY, ...	"	Steward.
"	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, . .	"	"
"	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	"	Sentinel.

And several Permanent Members, with a due representation from the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

In the absence of Comp. ARTHUR SHIRLEY, Grand Secretary, Comp. ALLEN HAINES was appointed Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*

The Grand Chapter was opened in ancient form by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

Prayer was offered by Rev. and E. Comp. JAMES PRATT, Grand Chaplain.

Comp. CHARLES B. SMITH offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the following Standing Committees, consisting of three, be appointed by the Grand High Priest, whose duty it shall be to consider and report upon such matters as may be referred to them at this communication, viz:

A Committee on Credentials.
A Committee on Dispensations and Warrants.
A Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.
A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.
A Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Chapters.

The following named Companions were appointed to fill the several Committees provided for in the foregoing resolution, viz:

On Credentials.—Comp's C. B. SMITH, JOHN WILLIAMS, S. G. DENNIS.

On Dispensations and Warrants.—Comp's JAMES PRATT, TIMOTHY CHASE, JOSEPH C. STEVENS.

On Doings of the Grand Officers.—Comp's LORY BACON, WILLIAM KIMBALL, SAMUEL LIBBY.

On Grievances and Appeals.—Comp's A. B. THOMPSON, SETH BIRD, S. B. BROWN.

On Returns of Subordinates.—Comp's OLIVER GERRISH, JABEZ TRUE, D. M. MITCHELL.

On motion,

Voted, to dispense with reading the records of the proceedings of the last session, the same having been published.

M. E. Grand High Priest presented the following communication, which was referred, with accompanying documents, to the Committee on the Doings of Grand Officers:

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine:

The undersigned respectfully reports that during the past year several matters relative to Royal Arch Masonry within our jurisdiction have been acted upon by him, which he now submits to the Grand Chapter for consideration at this convocation.

In consequence of the removal of New Jerusalem Chapter from East Thomaston to Wiscasset, at which latter place it is authorized to be held every other year, by virtue of a dispensation from this Grand Chapter in 1825, the requisite number of Companions at East Thomaston on the 18th day of January, 1849, petitioned for a dispensation for a new Chapter. Their petition being accompanied by the recommendation of Corinthian Chapter, at

Belfast, and being well satisfied that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry would be thereby promoted, I granted a dispensation to form and open a new Chapter at East Thomaston, to be known and named King Solomon's Chapter. The proceedings of said Chapter, their by-laws and other papers, will come before you for action at this communication.

On the fourth of July last, I attended on the occasion of the consecration of Corinthian Chapter, at Belfast, at which time said Chapter was duly consecrated, and the officers elect were installed. A report of the same was made to the Grand Secretary, and the same has been recorded among the proceedings of this Grand Chapter.

Since our last Annual Communication, Jerusalem Chapter, located at Hallowell, has resumed its masonic labors. At the special request of several members of said Chapter, representing that it would be for the interest of the craft to have said Chapter located at Augusta for the present, and being furnished with a copy of a unanimous vote of the Chapter for that purpose, I granted a dispensation to its members to hold its meetings at Augusta, agreeably to said vote and request. The subject matter of its future location will come before you for action at this time.

By vote of the Grand Chapter at its last annual session, the undersigned was requested to procure all such information as he might find practicable in relation to the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, and communicate the same to such officers and members of Subordinate Chapters as have received said degrees, in order that they may be conferred correctly. In pursuance of said vote, I have obtained such information as I could relative to the ancient and established usages of the Order, and have imparted such information whenever called upon to assist in conferring those degrees within our jurisdiction. In furtherance of this object, warrants for Councils of Royal and Select Masters have been issued to Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, and Corinthian Chapter, Belfast, agreeably to the by-laws of the Grand Chapter of Maine.

I have visited during the past year only three of the Chapters under our jurisdiction. It gives me great pleasure to announce to you that peace, harmony and good fellowship are maintained, and that a deep and increasing interest is felt in the cultivation of the principles and mysteries of our Institution.

F. BRADFORD, *G. H. P.*

On motion of Comp. C. B. SMITH,

Voted, To admit such Royal Arch Masons in good standing as may desire to visit this Grand Chapter during the present session.

Comp. C. B. SMITH, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report, which was accepted, viz:

The Committee on Credentials having attended to the duty assigned them submit the following report:

They are happy to announce that every Chapter except one now at work within our jurisdiction is represented, as follows:

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—

Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD, High Priest.
" WILLIAM KIMBALL, King.

Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick, by—

Comp. A. B. THOMPSON, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter,—Not represented.

Jerusalem Chapter, Hallowell, by—

Comp. LORY BACON, proxy for Comp. ANDREW MASTERS, High Priest.
" STEPHEN WEBBER, King.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—

Comp. JABEZ TRUE, proxy for Comp. B. S. DEANE, High Priest.
" JOHN WILLIAMS, proxy for Comp. W. H. MILLS, King.
" SAMUEL B. BROWN, proxy for Comp. JOSEPH R. LOMBARD, Scribe.

Corinthian Chapter, Belfast, by—

Comp. TIMOTHY CHASE, King.
" J. C. STEVENS, proxy for Comp. N. C. FLETCHER, H. Priest.

King Solomon's Chapter, U. D., East Thomaston, by—

Comp. S. G. DENNIS, High Priest.
" SAMUEL LIBBY, King.
" D. M. MITCHELL, Scribe.

On motion of Comp. A. B. THOMPSON,

Voted, To proceed forthwith to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year.

The Grand Chapter thereupon resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, Comp. C. B. SMITH in the Chair.

M. E. G. H. P. BRADFORD and D. G. H. P. BOWLES declined being candidates for any office in the Grand Chapter.

Comp's J. C. STEVENS, NELSON RACKLYFT and S. G. DENNIS were appointed a sub-committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers. The sub-committee having attended to the

duty assigned them, reported accordingly to the Committee of the whole. Whereupon the committee rose, and reported that the following Companions had received a majority of the votes cast for the several offices set against their respective names, viz:

M. E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	JOHN WILLIAMS,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	*Grand King.*
"	TIMOTHY CHASE,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" *Secretary.*

Which report was accepted, and said Companions declared legally elected to fill said offices.

On motion of Comp. A. B. THOMPSON, it was

Voted, That the Grand Officers elect be installed on Thursday evening at seven and a half o'clock.

Comp's FREEMAN BRADFORD, C. B. SMITH and LORY BACON were elected a Committee of Finance, by ballot.

Comp. BACON presented the petition of Jerusalem Chapter for leave to continue to hold its meetings at Augusta, and also for the remission of dues, which was received and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants.

Comp. DENNIS presented the petition of the High Priest, King and Scribe of King Solomon's Chapter for a perpetual charter, which was referred to the same committee.

M. E. Grand High Priest BRADFORD, Comp's JOHN WILLIAMS and NELSON RACKLYFT, were appointed to exemplify the lectures in the Mark Master and Royal Arch degrees.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, to meet again on Tuesday, at ten o'clock A. M.

TUESDAY, May 1, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter assembled and resumed labor.

Present as before, excepting Comp's J. C. HUMPHREYS, Grand King, and A. B. THOMPSON, Grand Marshal.

Comp. S. B. BROWN was appointed Grand Marshal *pro tem.*

Comp. C. B. SMITH, from the Committee on Finance, made the following report, which was read and laid upon the table, and finally accepted and ordered to be placed on file:

The Committee of Finance have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the past year, and respectfully report:

They find that there has been received during the past year, from subordinate Chapters and from other sources, the sum of $319.20, which, added to the balance of $132.24 in his hands at the close of the preceding year, amounts to the sum of $451.44.

The committee find that there has been paid out during the year past the sum of $262.29, which, deducted from the above sum, leaves now in the Grand Treasury the sum of $189.15.

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer have been carefully and correctly kept, and the items of expenditure properly vouched.

There is also in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, belonging to the Charity Fund, a balance of $50.28.

FREEMAN BRADFORD,
LORY BACON,
C. B. SMITH,
} *Committee.*

Comp. LORY BACON, from the Committee on the Doings of Grand Officers, made the following report, which was accepted:

To the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, King and Scribe of the Grand Chapter of Maine.

The Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers have attended to the duty assigned them, and report:

That they have had before them the petition of certain Royal Arch Masons at East Thomaston, asking for a dispensation to open and hold a new Chapter in that town, in consequence of the removal of New Jerusalem Chapter to Wiscasset. The petition was in due form, and the Companions were recommended by Corinthian Chapter. Upon this petition, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest granted his dispensation according to masonic usage, and your committee believe it will result in great benefit to the craft in that section of the State.

Your committee further report that the Most Excellent Grand High Priest granted a dispensation to Jerusalem Chapter, at Hallowell, to hold its meetings at Augusta, on the petition of said Chapter. For this dispensation the Grand High Priest did not exact the fee as required by the by-laws of this Grand Chapter, leaving the matter of payment thereof and its future location to the consideration of said Grand Chapter at this communication. Your committee would approve of the doings of the Grand High Priest in this particular, and believe that the prosperity of the Chapter and the interests of Royal Arch Masonry have been promoted.

Your committee also find, from petitions of Subordinate Chapters and from the report of the Grand High Priest, that he has caused warrants to be granted to Mount Moriah Chapter at Bangor, Mount Vernon Chapter at Portland, and Corinthian Chapter at Belfast, authorizing them to open, in their several Chapters, Councils of Royal and Select Masters. All the papers relative thereto appear to be in conformity to the regulations of this Grand Chapter.

A report of the Grand High Priest on the occasion of the consecration of Corinthian Chapter, has been spread upon the records of this Grand Chapter, and is approved by your committee.

No one of the other Grand Officers have laid before your committee or this Grand Chapter, any papers.

The committee are gratified to learn, and to find abundant evidence, from the subject matters that have been presented to them, the prevalence of peace and harmony within our jurisdiction.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Per order, LORY BACON.

Comp. C. B. SMITH offered the following resolution, which was adopted by a unanimous vote:

Whereas, M. E. Companion ARTHUR SHIRLEY has served this Grand Chapter for nineteen years past in the office of Grand Secretary, from which office he now retires in consequence of inability from the loss of sight,—

Therefore Resolved, That a gratuity of twenty-five dollars be tendered to him from the funds of this Grand Chapter, as a token of our respectful consideration of his long and faithful services in that important office.

M. E. Grand High Priest BRADFORD and Comp's WILLIAMS and RACKLYFT exemplified the lectures in the Mark Master's and Royal Arch degrees.

A communication from Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges, inviting this Grand Chapter to attend a Masonic Festival in the city of Portland, on the twenty-sixth of June, was received, read, and ordered to be placed on file.

The Grand Chapter was then called off till two and a half o'clock P. M.

MAY 1, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter re-assembled and resumed business.

Present as in the morning.

On motion of Comp. C. B. SMITH,

Voted, To remit to Jerusalem Chapter the sum of four dollars and fifty cents, being one-half of the yearly tax.

Comp. OLIVER GERRISH, from the Committee on Returns of Subordinates, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned them, and find that returns have been received from five Royal Arch Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and the dues paid to the Grand Treasurer. Two Royal Arch Chapters have returned the number of Companions who have received the degrees of Royal and Select Masters.

The returns were made in accordance with the by-laws of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

A copy of the seal of Corinthian Royal Arch Chapter has been received by the Grand Secretary, recorded, and placed on file.

New Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter has not made any returns for the past year; neither did King Solomon's Royal Arch Chapter make a return, and the committee recommend the said Chapter be excused from doing so and from paying the dues at this convocation, in consideration of the short space of time that has elapsed since it received a dispensation authorizing it to open a Royal Arch Chapter.

The following table will show the number of members, exaltations, and also the number who have received the degrees of Royal and Select Master:

	Members.	Exaltations.	Royal and Select Masters.
Mount Vernon R. A. Chapter,	103	10	20
Mount Moriah R. A. Chapter,	36	6	6
Jerusalem R. A. Chapter,	21	9	
Corinthian R. A. Chapter,	23	16	
Montgomery R. A. Chapter,	41	2	
	224	43	26

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVER GERRISH, } *Committee.*
D. M. MITCHELL, }

Comp. JAMES PRATT, from the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, made the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions adopted separately:

The Committee, styled the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, have attended to the duties assigned them, and ask leave to report:

The first matters to which the attention of the committee was turned, were those connected with King Solomon's Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, located at East Thomaston. For the initiative steps in the organization of this Chapter, the M. E. Grand High Priest granted a dispensation on the twenty-third of January last. That dispensation is now returned, accompanied by a petition that its place may be supplied by a perpetual charter. The committee were also supplied with a copy of the by-laws of said petitioning Chapter, and their book of Records.

* * * * * * * * *

Upon a review of the whole case, they would submit the following resolutions, viz:

1. That in conferring degrees, the Chapter at East Thomaston shall observe carefully the laws of the institution.
2. That the eighth Article of the by-laws of King Solomon's Chapter be stricken out as inconsistent with the thirteenth Article of the by-laws of this Grand Chapter.
3. That the eighteenth Article be stricken out as a dead letter.
4. That the petition for a perpetual charter be granted.

Having thus disposed of this case, your committee next gave attention to the petition and papers from Jerusalem Chapter, located originally at Hallowell, now, by limited dispensation, at Augusta. After listening to Companions from said Chapter, it became apparent to the committee that no definite action could be had at the present time. There are conflicting opinions in relation to various matters involved, and your committee deem it best to report the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the whole question touching Jerusalem Chapter and its permanent location at Augusta, or its removal again to Hallowell, be left in the hands of the M. E. Grand High Priest, and that he have full powers to decide the question after free and full consultation with the Companions of said Chapter. Moreover, that he have power to remit, if in his judgment the interests of the order demand it, the dues for dispensation for which Jerusalem Chapter is now indebted to the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be authorized to exercise any power under the law which shall be requisite to carry out the foregoing resolution in relation to Jerusalem Chapter.

J. PRATT,
TIMOTHY CHASE, } *Committee.*
J. C. STEVENS,

On motion of Comp. GERRISH,

Voted, That King Solomon's Chapter be excused from making returns and paying dues till the next Annual Communication.

The craft were then called off till nine and a half A. M. on Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, May 2, 9½ o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter met and resumed labor.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to settle the bill for stationery procured for this session, and also to pay to Comp. ISAAC DAVIS four dollars for his services as Grand Sentinel.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor, to assemble again on Thursday, at seven and a half P. M.

THURSDAY, May 3, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter re-assembled.

Present as on the first day.

Prayer by Rev. and E. Comp. CYRUS CUMMINGS, Grand Chaplain.

Comp. A. B. THOMPSON presented the petition of Montgomery Chapter for a dispensation to confer the Royal and Select Masters' degrees, which was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants.

M. E. Grand High Priest FREEMAN BRADFORD and Grand Treasurer OLIVER GERRISH and Grand Secretary ALLEN HAINES were appointed a committee to prepare and publish the proceedings of this communication.

On motion of Comp. BOODY,

Voted, To invite all Master Masons in good standing to witness the installation of Grand Officers.

M. E. Comp. R. P. Dunlap, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, was then introduced by the Grand Marshal, and received with the grand honors of the Order.

The following Grand Officers elect were then presented by the Grand Marshal, and installed into their respective chairs in due and ancient form by the M. E. General Grand High Priest:

M. E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	JOHN WILLIAMS,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	*Grand King.*
"	TIMOTHY CHASE,	*Grand Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" *Secretary.*

The Grand High Priest made the following appointments:

Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	JAMES PRATT,	" "
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON,	" "
"	GERSHOM F. COX,	" "
E.	ABNER B. THOMPSON,	" *Marshal.*
Comp.	H. H. BOODY,	" *Steward.*
"	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH,	" "
"	S. S. WING,	" "
"	LORY BACON,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	" *Sentinel.*

The officers appointed were then duly installed into their respective offices, and proclamation made that the Grand Chapter of Maine was duly organized.

Comp. J. C. Stevens, from the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, reported favorably upon the petition of Montgomery Chapter for a dispensation to confer the Select and Royal Masters' degrees. The report was accepted, and the prayer of the petitioners granted.

On motion of Past Grand High Priest Bradford,

Voted, To invest the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars of the funds of this Grand Chapter, and transfer the same to the Charity Fund. Also to invest fifty dollars now belonging to the Charity Fund.

On motion of Comp. A. B. THOMPSON, the Committee on Finance were instructed to prepare and report at the next Annual Communication, a system for the investment of the funds of this Grand Chapter.

Comp. S. J. TALLMAN filed the following motion for alteration of the by-laws:

"Amend all Articles of the by-laws necessary to be amended in order to enable this Grand Chapter to alter the time and place of the annual convocation."

The Grand Chapter then finally closed in ancient form.

A true copy of record.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Maine.

The Committee on Foreign Communications respectfully report, That there have been received since the last Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, the printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi for 1848 and 1849; of Indiana for 1848; of Connecticut for May, 1848; of New York for February, 1848; of Missouri for October, 1847, and January, 1849; of Louisiana for May, 1848; of Kentucky for August, 1848; of North Carolina for June, 1848; of Maryland for November, 1848; a Circular from the Grand Chapter of South Carolina; Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire for 1847 and 1848; of Virginia for December, 1848; and of Rhode Island from 1844 to 1847, inclusive.

It will be perceived that the Foreign Correspondence of your Grand Chapter has somewhat diminished within the last year, and your committee regret that the interchange between our sister Grand Chapters is not more full aud complete. Some matters of interest to the craft, contained in the proceedings which we here lay before this Grand Chapter, should be adverted to; and among the number is that of the organization of a Grand Chapter in Louisiana, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United

States. This was effected in May, 1848, by a convention of four Chapters, at which time M. E. THOMAS H. LEWIS was elected Grand High Priest. As the organization of this Grand Chapter has given rise to much discussion among the Fraternity, your committee deem the matter of sufficient importance to present to this Grand Chapter a succinct history of Royal Arch Masonry in Louisiana for the last forty years or more, in order to show the necessity of the present organization. Your committee believe that the facts in the case are correctly set forth in the report of the Committee of Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, which are as follows:

"Sometime about the year 1800, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, who, it seems, claimed at that time jurisdiction over all degrees, from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch, inclusive, granted charters for certain Lodges in the Island of St. Domingo, authorizing them to confer all the degrees, from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch, inclusive. Upon the breaking out of the Revolution in that Island, the members, or a part of them, retired to the Island of Cuba, from whence they were subsequently compelled to remove. They then removed to New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, and, having preserved their charters, soon after re-opened their Lodges and commenced labor, and continued to work without any Grand Chapter till 1813, in two distinct Bodies, one bearing the name of 'Concordia,' and the other 'Perseverance.' During this year these Lodges, together with such officers and members of the Grand Lodge of the State as were Royal Arch Masons, formed and organized a Grand Chapter for the State. Your committee deem it unnecessary to express any opinion as to the legality of this Grand Chapter, for the reason that afterwards, in 1829, the General Grand Chapter received from this Body a delegate, and took the same into their care, and said Grand Chapter acknowledged itself subordinate to the General Grand Chapter. This relation continued till 1831, when said Grand Chapter suspended labor. And it would seem to be true, as stated, that about the same time or immediately after, all the Subordinate Chapters in said State, with the exception of one, also suspended labor. This state of facts continued till 1841. In that year the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, by direction of its Grand Master, issued notices to certain Royal Arch Masons in the city of New Orleans to assemble and elect Grand Officers, with a view to a re-organization of the Grand Chapter of the State. This meeting did not take place. But soon after, another one was called, and an organization effected. This Body, so formed, not of delegates from Subordinate Chapters, as notified by the former officers of the Grand Chapter, but by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, gave to itself the name of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana."

Thus having stated the facts, your committee do not feel called upon to notice particularly the report of said committee, but refer this Grand Chapter to the report of the committee relative to said subject at the Triennial Communication of the General Grand Chapter in 1847. The substance of said report is embraced in the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted, and are as follows:

"WHEREAS, At its Triennial Communication in 1844, this General Grand Chapter, after a patient and careful examination of all the facts in the premises, did unanimously declare that the Body formerly known as the Grand Chapter of Louisiana had become extinct, and that authority over the territory thus vacated could be legally exercised only by this General Grand Body; and whereas the irregular association of individuals then, as now, styling themselves the Sovereign Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Louisiana, in defiance of the authority of this General Grand Chapter, continued to hold their sessions and keep up their organization, and, for purposes of deception, assume not to

understand the action of this General Grand Body had at its Triennial Communication aforesaid as impeaching their legality as a Grand Royal Arch Chapter, but insist on the regularity of their organization and contemptuously denounce the doings of the responsible officers of this Grand Body as arbitrary and 'without warrant or authority;' therefore, that there may not hereafter be any room for misunderstanding in the case, it is hereby unanimously

"*Resolved*, That there is not at this time any constitutional and legally authorized Grand Royal Arch Chapter in the State of Louisiana."

The General Grand Chapter having thus decided in relation to the Sovereign Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Louisiana in 1847, and there having been a sufficient number of Chapters duly constituted under its jurisdiction, a Grand Chapter was duly organized in May, 1848.

Your committee further report that in some of our sister Grand Chapters there is a disposition to authorize the conferring of the Royal and Select Masters' degrees by their subordinates. Your committee believe that the Grand Chapter of Maine acted wisely in adopting the recommendation of the General Grand Chapter in this particular at its Annual Convocation in May, 1848. The Grand Chapter of Virginia notices with approbation our course in this particular, but believes we are in error relative to the order in which we confer those degrees.

Your committee cheerfully concede to their Companions in Virginia masonic intelligence of a high order, and are generally instructed and enlightened with their views relative to most subjects of interest to the craft. In some instances, they regret to see that their opinions are advanced with too much pertinacity and in a spirit too polemical for the harmony of our Institution.

In adverting to the various matters that now engage the attention of the craft, your committee notice with great satisfaction a spirit of research into the symbols and principles of the Order, and an increasing desire to study and cultivate our sublime art. To the man of science, the study of masonry opens a wide and useful field; and especially to him "*Who points to Heaven and leads the way.*" Masonry, like the flaming cross that burst on the startled vision of Constantine, has emblazoned on it the same truthful inscription. The scientific mason finds on the century-enduring monuments of the "farthest Ind," on the ruins of Balbec, in the temples and pyramids of Egypt, and even in the Book of the Law and the Testimony, the mystic symbol of the lodge room, the universal and unchanged language of the craft.

A more thorough knowledge of our Institution, its supports, its covering, its ornaments, and, above all, its furniture and lights, has become necessary. The committee, adopting the language of the M.E. Grand High Priest of Virginia, regret to find that—

"There are many who receive the whole of the degrees of ancient masonry, and are too indolent to acquire more than a very superficial knowledge of the science. These become drones in the hive; they behold before them a beautiful fabric, the exterior of which they have examined, and with this examination alone they remain satisfied. But there are others that require a more intimate knowledge of the structure than has been presented to their

view. They examine its internal form, traverse its intricate passages, explore all its recesses, and admire and contemplate its magnificent apartments. Their knowledge of the edifice thus becomes greatly enlarged; they have clearer views of the principles of its construction than their less inquiring Companions. All the mysteries of the Order are to them as familiar as the letters in the alphabet."

In the language of a learned Companion, we would say that—

"There is between these studious masons and their slothful, uninquiring *Companions*, the same difference in the views they take of masonry as there is between an artist and a peasant in their respective estimation of an old painting; it may be a Raphael or a Rubens. The peasant gazes with stupid wonder or with cold indifference on the canvas redolent with life, without the excitation of a single emotion in his barren soul. Its colors, mellowed to a rich softness by the hand of time, are to him less pleasing than the gaudy tints which glare upon the sign of the village inn; and its subjects, borrowed from the deep lore of history, or the bold imaginings of poesy, are less interesting to him than the daubed paint which hangs conspicuously at his cottage fireside. But to the eye of the artist, how different the impression conveyed. To him, everything beams with light and life and beauty. To him, it is the voice of nature speaking in the language of art. Prometheus-like, he sees the warm blood gushing through the blue veins, and the eye beaming with a fancied animation; the correctness of its outlines, the boldness of its foreshortenings, where the limbs appear to burst from the canvas, the delicacy of its shadows and the fine arrangement of its lights, are all before him—subjects of admiration on which he could ever gaze, and examples of instruction which he would fain imitate.

"And whence arises this difference of impression produced by the same object on two different individuals? It is not from genius alone, for that, unaided, brings no light to the mind, though it prepares it for its reception. It is cultivation which enlarges the intellect and fits it for its reception, as a matrix for the birth of those which find in the bosom of ignorance no abiding place. And thus it is with masonry. As we cultivate it as a science, its objects become extended; as our knowledge of it increases, new lights burst forth from its inmost recesses, which to the inquisitive mason burn with bright effulgence; but to the inattentive and unsearching, are but as dim and fitful glimmerings, only rendering darkness visible. Let every mason ask himself to which of these classes he belongs. Has he studied its hidden beauties and excellencies? Has he explored its history and traced out the origin and erudite meaning of its symbols? Or has he supinely rested content with the knowledge he received at the pedestal, nor sought to pass beyond the porch of the Temple? If so, he is not prepared to find in our Royal Art those lessons which adorn the path of life, and cheer the bed of death, and for all purposes, except those of social meeting and friendly recognition, masonry is to him a sealed book. But, if he has ever felt a desire to seek and cultivate the internal philosophy of masonry, let him advance in those early trodden paths; the labor of such a pursuit is itself refreshment, and the reward great. Fresh flowers bloom at every step; and the prospect on every side is so filled with beauty and enchantment, that, ravished at the sight, he will rush on with enthusiasm from fact to fact, and from truth to truth, until the whole science of masonry lies before him invested with a new form and sublimity."

All which is respectfully submitted,

FREEMAN BRADFORD.

OFFICERS

OF THE

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

ELECTED APRIL 30, 1849.

M. E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, Brunswick,	Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN WILLIAMS, Bangor,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT, Portland,	Grand King.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE, Belfast,	" Scribe.
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, Portland,	" Secretary.
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	" Marshal.
Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	" Chaplain.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	" "
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	" "
"	GERSHOM F. COX, Bath,	" "
Comp.	HENRY H. BOODY, Portland,	" Steward.
"	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, Bath,	" "
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	" "
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	" Sentinel.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M. E.	CHARLES FOX,	P. G. H. P.
"	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Brunswick,	"
"	NATHANIEL COFFIN, Illinois,	"
"	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	"
"	WILLIAM SWAN, Portland,	"
"	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	"
"	DAVID BURBANK,	"
"	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, Portland,	"
"	FREEMAN BRADFORD, Portland,	"
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Portland,	P. D. G H. P.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, Augusta,	"

M. E.	Amos Nourse, Bath,	P. D. G. H. P.
"	Joseph Chandler,	"
"	Joseph M. Gerrish, Portland,	"
"	Charles Chase, Baltimore,	"
"	Thomas S. Bowles, Bath,	"
"	Lawr. Sprague, U. S. A.,	P. G. K.
"	Peleg Sprague, Boston,	"
"	Horace Seaver, Boston,	"
"	Samuel K. Gilman, Hallowell,	"
"	William D. Williamson,	"
"	Jesse Robinson, Hallowell,	"
"	Seth Bird, Portland,	"
"	John P. Boyd, Portland,	"
"	Erastus Foote,	P. G. S.
"	Charles B. Smith,	"
"	Silas Stearns,	"
"	John H. Sheppard, Boston,	"
"	Isaac Gage,	"
"	Oliver B. Dorrance,	"
"	Zina Hyde, Bath,	"
"	Nelson Racklyft, Portland,	"

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER—Portland.

M. E.	Freeman Bradford,	High Priest.
E.	William Kimball,	King.
"	John Purinton,	Scribe.
Comp.	Oliver Gerrish,	Treasurer.
"	Seth Bird,	Secretary.
"	William Allen,	Capt. of Host.
"	Charles B. Smith,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Charles Fobes,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	James R. Milliken,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	John B. Coyle,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	James F. Young,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Richard W. Kennard,	Steward.
"	John Dain,	"
"	Isaac Davis,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 10.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER—Bangor.

M. E.	Benjamin S. Deane,	High Priest.
E.	William H. Mills,	King.
"	Joseph R. Lumbert,	Scribe.
Comp.	Joseph C. Stevens,	Treasurer.
"	Silas Alden,	Secretary.
"	John S. Sayward,	Capt. of Host.
"	Cyrus Brown,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Jabez True,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Isaac W. Patten,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Jonathan Burbank,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Alden Harlow,	Steward.
"	Ebenezer French,	"
"	Simeon Everton,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 6.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Hallowell.

M. E.	Andrew Masters,	High Priest.
E.	Stephen Webber,	King.
"	B. A. G. Fuller,	Scribe.
Comp.	John Dorr,	Treasurer.
"	Lory Bacon,	Secretary.
"	Eben Fuller,	Capt. of Host.
"	Stephen Lord,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Moses Springer,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Thomas Clark,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Peter Vigoureaux,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	J. M. Crooker,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	James H. Patterson,	Steward.
"	Israel J. Johnson,	"
"	William Nye,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 9.

MONTGOMERY CHAPTER—Brunswick.

M. E.	Samuel S. Wing,	High Priest.
E.	Scott J. Tallman,	King.
"	A. B. Thompson,	Scribe.
Comp.	Theodore S. McLellan,	Treasurer.
"	Ephraim Brown,	Secretary.
"	John D. Lincoln,	Capt. of Host.

Comp.	John C. Humphreys,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Horace P. Hubbard,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Leonard P. Merrill,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Robert Bowker,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Octavius A. Merrill,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	George Earle,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the year, 2.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER—Belfast.

M. E.	N. C. Fletcher,	High Priest.
E.	Timothy Chase,	King.
"	Alfred Marshall,	Scribe.
Comp.	Josiah Farrow,	Treasurer.
"	Oshea Page,	Secretary.
"	H. G. O. Washburn,	Capt. of Host.
"	Ansel Lennan,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Joseph A. Noyes,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Frye Hall,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Benjamin Kelly,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	John Lock,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Joseph Dennett,	Steward.
"	James Furber,	"
"	William Holt,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 16.

NEW JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Wiscasset.

M. E.	John B. Mange,	High Priest.
E.	Erastus Foote,	King.
"	Wabren Rice,	Scribe.
Comp.	Thomas B. Johnston,	Capt. of Host.
"	Asa F. Hall,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Abner Packard,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Henry Clark,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	James Taylor,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Edwin Sevey,	M. of 1st Vail.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER—East Thomaston.

M. E.	S. G. Dennis,	High Priest.
E.	Samuel Libby,	King.
"	D. M. Mitchell,	Scribe.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1850.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine assembled in Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on Monday, April 29, A. L. 5850, A. D. 1850, at 7:30 o'clock P. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, . . .	Grand High Priest.
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES, . . .	D. G. H. Priest, *pro tem.*
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, . . .	Grand King, *pro tem.*
"	JOHN B. MANGE, ...	" Scribe, *pro tem.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, ...	" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, ...	" Chaplain.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, . . .	" "
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, . . .	" "
Comp.	ABNER B. THOMPSON, . .	" Marshal.
"	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, . .	" Steward.
"	LORY BACON, ...	" "
"	S. S. WING, ...	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

And several Permanent Members, and a due representation from a large majority of the Subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ancient form by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

Prayer was offered by Rev. and E. Comp. JAMES PRATT, Grand Chaplain.

On motion,

Voted, to dispense with reading the records of the proceedings of the last communication, the same having been published.

M. E. Comp. DUNLAP offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the following committees be appointed by the Grand High Priest, to wit:

A Committee on Credentials.
A Committee on Charity.
A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.
A Committee on Dispensations and Warrants.
A Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Chapters.
A Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

In accordance with the foregoing resolution, the M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following committees, to wit:

On Credentials.—Comp's S. J. TALLMAN, of Bath; L. BACON, of Augusta; F. BRADFORD, of Portland.

On Charity—Comp's J. B. MANGE, of Wiscasset; J. PURINTON, of Portland; S. LIBBY, of Thomaston.

On Grievances and Appeals.—Comp's L. BACON, of Augusta; C. B. SMITH, of Portland; J. NOYES, of Belfast.

On Dispensations and Warrants.—Comp's J. WILLIAMS, of Bangor; C. B. SMITH, of Portland; H. C. LOVELL, of Portland.

On Returns of Subordinates.—Comp's O. Gerrish, of Portland; J. TRUE, of Bangor; A. B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick.

On Doings of Grand Officers.—Comp's J. PRATT, of Portland; T. CHASE, of Belfast; F. BRADFORD, of Portland.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Comp's C. PEARL, of Baldwin; S. J. TALLMAN, of Bath; S. S. WING, of Brunswick.

M. E. Comp. R. P. DUNLAP moved the following amendment to the by-laws of the Grand Chapter:

Amend Article XXVIII of the by-laws by inserting after the word *the,* in the second line, the words *officers and.*

Comp. S. J. TALLMAN, from the Committee on Credentials, reported as follows, viz:

The Committee on Credentials having attended to the duty assigned them, report that the several Chapters are represented as follows:

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—

Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD, High Priest.
" J. PURINTON, Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick, by—

Comp. S. J. TALLMAN, High Priest.
" A. B. THOMPSON, King.
" S. S. WING, proxy for Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, Wiscasset, by—

Comp. J. B. MANGE, High Priest.
" WILLIAM JORDAN, proxy for King.
" ELBRIDGE G. WEBBER, proxy for Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter, Hallowell, by—

Comp. S. J. TALLMAN, proxy for High Priest.
" JOSEPH COVELL, proxy for King.
" STEPHEN LORD, Scribe.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—

Comp. JOHN WILLIAMS, High Priest.
" JABEZ TRUE, proxy for King.

Corinthian Chapter, Belfast, by—

Comp. ANSEL LENNAN, High Priest.
" TIMOTHY CHASE, King.
" JOSEPH NOYES, proxy for Scribe.

King Solomon's Chapter, East Thomaston, by—

Comp. SAMUEL LIBBY, King.
" SAMUEL B. DODGE, Scribe.
" CHARLES HOLMES, proxy for High Priest.

PROXIES FOR PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

LORY BACON, for JESSE ROBINSON, P. G. K.
STEPHEN LORD, for S. K. GILMAN, P. G. K.
JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, for JAMES L. CHILD, P. D. G. H. P.
JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, for AMOS NOURSE, P. D. G. H. P.
THOMAS S. BOWLES, for ZINA HYDE, P. G. S.
THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, for ERASTUS FOOTE, in Act of Incorporation.
HENRY C. LOVELL, for J. C. CHURCHILL, P. G. H. P.

SAMUEL CHASE for SAMUEL FESSENDEN, P. D. G. H. P.
ELIAS M. PLIMPTON, for J. M. GERRISH, P. D. G. H. P.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R. P. DUNLAP, P. G. H. P.	THOMAS S. BOWLES, P. D. G. H. P.
OLIVER GERRISH, "	S. BIRD, P. G. K.
F. BRADFORD, "	C. B. SMITH, P. G. S.

On motion of Comp. R. P. DUNLAP,

Voted, That the M. E. Grand High Priest now appoint a Committee of Finance.

And Comp's FREEMAN BRADFORD, CHARLES B. SMITH and LORY BACON were appointed.

Comp. S. J. TALLMAN moved an amendment to the by-laws, which was referred to a committee, who examined and reported the same as amended. Said amendment was finally adopted in the following form, to wit:

Voted, That Article IV of the by-laws be stricken out, and the following inserted in its place, viz:

ARTICLE FOUR.—The Annual Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be held on the twenty-fourth day of June, unless that day comes on Saturday, Sunday or Monday, in which case the meeting shall be on the following Tuesday, at nine o'clock in the forenoon; and in the following places in succession, and in the order here stated, viz: Bangor, first; Belfast, second; East Thomaston, third; Wiscasset, fourth; Augusta or Gardiner, as the New Jerusalem Chapter may be located, fifth; Bath or Brunswick, as Montgomery Chapter may be holden, sixth; Portland, seventh; and as new Chapters are formed under this jurisdiction, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall hold their Annual Communications in such places as said new Chapters may be located, and in the order of succession in which they will stand by age. And when said Annual Communications shall have been held in the several places, as herein provided, they shall be repeated in the same order of succession, until otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter.

Special Communications shall be held at such times and places as the Grand High Priest, or senior officer for the time being, shall direct, or as shall be designated from time to time by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Comp. JAMES PRATT moved to amend Article III of the by-laws, so as to provide that the Committee on Finance shall be elected by ballot.

Comp. J. PURINTON moved to amend the same Article, by adding thereto the words "and report thereon to the Grand Chapter."

On motion of Comp. JERE. ELLSWORTH, Article XXVIII of the by-laws was amended by substituting the following for the original Article:

ARTICLE TWENTY-EIGHT.—Communications of the Grand Chapter shall be called by the Grand Secretary, by public notice in such newspapers as the Grand High Priest shall direct, and in the *Masonic Mirror*, published in Boston, such notice to be given at least thirty days before said Communication. And if at any time the Grand Chapter shall be destitute of officers authorized by Article IV, to call a meeting of the same, any past officer of the Grand Chapter may, upon the written application of three members, direct one of such applicants to give notice in manner aforesaid, of a communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, to be held at such time and place as he may designate.

The following additional article of by-laws was proposed by Comp. S. J. TALLMAN, and, on motion, laid upon the table:

ARTICLE THIRTY-THREE.—Whenever it shall be deemed necessary to amend these by-laws, such alteration or amendment shall be first proposed in writing at an Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter by a member thereof. The proposed alteration or amendment shall be referred to a committee, entered upon the records, published with the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and sent to the several subordinate Chapters for consideration. It shall be deemed in order to take up the subject and act upon it definitely at the next succeeding Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter, and not sooner.

The following resolution was offered by Comp. JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to cause to be printed the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, with a list of its officers, the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of Maine, with its Act of Incorporation and the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Charity Fund, together with a correct list of the Officers and Permanent Members of this Grand Chapter; and that one copy of the same be furnished to each Officer and Permanent Member of this Grand Chapter, and ten copies to each subordinate Chapter.

Voted, That said Committee be instructed to procure the printing of only three hundred copies of the document to be published under the foregoing resolution; and that they be further instructed not to publish the same till after the next session of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States so as to avail themselves of any changes in the laws that may be then made.

The Grand Secretary presented the following Circular from the Illustrious Grand Council of Georgia, and his reply to the same, which were referred to Comp's F. BRADFORD, CYRIL PEARL and S. B. DODGE:

GRAND COUNCIL OF GEORGIA,
In Convention, May 8, A. L. 5849.

Comp. B. B. RUSSELL offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to open a correspondence with the proper authorities in every State in the Union where the Council degrees are cultivated, for the purpose of creating, if possible, a uniform jurisdiction over the said degrees throughout the United States, and a uniform method of conferring the same.

Resolved, That for the purpose of obtaining a uniform system of authority and work, this Grand Council will surrender all jurisdiction over the said degrees either to the Grand Chapter of the United States or place them under the exclusive control of State Grand Councils, in which latter Bodies this Grand Council believes should be vested the sole authority for controlling the same.

Comp's P. T. SCHLEY, B. B. RUSSELL and L. DWELLE were appointed the committee under the first resolution.

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, July 20, A. L. 5849.

ILL. COMPANIONS:

In pursuance of the foregoing resolutions, adopted in Grand Council of the State of Georgia in May last, the Committee of Correspondence beg leave to address you, and direct your attention to the propositions contained therein.

The Grand Council of Georgia has long felt the evil existing under the present diversified systems of organizing Councils for conferring the Royal and Select Masters' degrees in the United States, and has taken this preliminary step in order to effect a more perfect uniformity, and to you they look with confidence for aid and assistance in bringing to a favorable issue the object proposed in the resolutions.

The committee forbear making any comments upon the merits of the proposition, believing its importance to be perfectly obvious to all who desire to see symmetry and order prevail in this branch of our Institution. Deeming the reasons, however, of sufficient magnitude to enlist the united action of the different Grand Bodies in the Union, we lay the matter before you, hoping you will take it up in the spirit of compromise and concession at the earliest opportunity, making such suggestions as you may deem most conducive to a uniform system in the government of the Order.

It is desirable that the result of your deliberations on this subject should be forwarded, with as little delay as possible, to the "Committee of Correspondence, Grand Council, Augusta, Georgia," that the whole correspondence

may be published with our report and circulated at as early a day in the year 1850 as is practicable. Should a convention be deemed expedient, a favorable opportunity will present itself for the assembling of the delegates at the meeting of the General Grand Royal Arch Cbapter of the United States, which takes place in Boston, Mass., September —, 1850; and on this last suggestion the committee also ask your opinion.

Witb sentiments of esteem, we subscribe ourselves fraternally yours,

PHILIP T. SCHLEY,
BENJ. B. RUSSELL,
L. DWELLE,
Committee of Correspondence, Grand Council, Augusta, Georgia.

P. S. Should this communication be improperly addressed, you will oblige the committee by placing it in the proper hands.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF MAINE,
PORTLAND, August 29, A. L. 5849.

ILL. COMPANIONS:

Your Circular of July 20th, relative to the "Council degrees," has been laid before our M. E. Grand High Priest, who directs me to say tbat the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine is deeply impressed with the importance of having "a uniform method of conferring said degrees," and is as deeply impressed with the belief that such uniform method can be best received by having a supreme national jurisdiction over the same. To effect this object, the Grand Chapter of this State is prepared to make any reasonable concession, and will, doubtless, at its Annual Communication in May next, elect delegates with the necessary powers to arrange the matter in a general convention, to meet in Boston in September, 1850.

ALLEN HAINES,
Grand Secretary of Grand R. A. Chapter of Maine.

PHILIP T. SCHLEY,
BENJ. B. RUSSELL,
L. DWELLE, Esquires,
Committee of Correspondence, Grand Council, Augusta, Georgia.

On motion of Comp. C. B. SMITH,

Voted, That the election of Grand Officers be assigned as tbe first business for to-morrow morning.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, to re-assemble at nine o'clock A. M. on Tuesday.

TUESDAY, April 30, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter assembled and resumed labor.

Present as at the opening session, and

E. Comp.	JOHN WILLIAMS, . . .	Dep. G. H. Priest.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE, ...	Grand Scribe.
"	H. H. BOODY, ...	" Steward.

The election of Grand Officers being the first business in order, the Grand Chapter went into a Committee of the whole, with M. E. R. P. DUNLAP in the Chair.

In Committee of the whole, Comp's THOMAS S. BOWLES, JAMES PRATT and ANSEL LENNAN were appointed a sub-committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers. Said sub-committee having attended to the duty assigned them, reported as follows:

For G. H. P.—The whole number of votes is 33; all which are for M. E. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS.

For D. G. H. P.—The whole number of votes is 17; all which are for E. Comp. JOHN WILLIAMS.

For Grand King.—The whole number of votes is 23; all which are for E. Comp. TIMOTHY CHASE.

For Grand Scribe.—The whole number of votes is 29; of which E. Comp. A. B. THOMPSON has 18, E. Comp. C. B. SMITH 10, and S. J. TALLMAN 1.

For Grand Treasurer.—The whole number of votes is 18; of which E. Comp. OLIVER GERRISH has 15, and E. Comp. B. A. G. FULLER has 3.

For Grand Secretary.—The whole number of votes is 19; all which are for Comp. ALLEN HAINES.

The foregoing report having been accepted, the Committee of the Whole arose, and the M. E. Grand High Priest resumed the Chair.

Comp. DUNLAP, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, then reported the election of the following Grand Officers for the current year:

Comp.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick,	*Grand High Priest.*
M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS, of Bangor,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
E.	TIMOTHY CHASE, of Belfast,	*Grand King.*
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick,	" *Scribe.*
"	OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
Comp.	ALLEN HAINES, of Portland,	" *Secretary.*

Which report was accepted, and the said officers declared duly elected.

Comp. JAMES PRATT offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the by-laws of this Body, together with all alterations which may be proposed at this session, be referred to a committee of three, who shall cause their report to be printed and sent to each of the Subordinate Chapters and to the Grand Officers, at least three months before the next Annual Communication at Bangor.

After a free and full discussion, the foregoing resolution was adopted, on a call of the Grand Chapter, by the folllowing vote:

Yeas.—JOHN WILLIAMS (two votes), ALLEN HAINES, JAMES PRATT, ISAAC DAVIS, FREEMAN BRADFORD, (two votes), JOHN PURINTON, JOHN B. MANGE, JOSEPH COVELL, JABEZ TRUE, ANSEL LENNAN, TIMOTHY CHASE, JOSEPH NOYES, SAMUEL LIBBY, SAMUEL B. DODGE, CHARLES HOLMES, OLIVER GERRISH, (two votes), HENRY C. LOVELL (proxy), ELIAS M. PLIMPTON (proxy), SAMUEL CHASE (proxy), CHARLES B. SMITH, SETH BIRD.—24.

Nays.—JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, A. B. THOMPSON, (two votes), JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, (two votes), LORY BACON (two votes), S. S. WING (two votes), R. P. DUNLAP, S. J. TALLMAN, (two votes), WILLIAM JORDAN, ELBRIDGE G. WEBBER, STEPHEN LORD, (two votes), THOMAS S. BOWLES, (two votes), THOMAS B. JOHNSTON.—19.

Comp's ROBERT P. DUNLAP, JAMES PRATT and FREEMAN BRADFORD were elected by ballot as the committee under said resolution.

The M. E. Grand High Priest presented sundry papers relating to a matter of difference between New Jerusalem and King Solomon's Chapters, which were referred to the Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.

Comp's ALLEN HAINES, J. WILLIAMS and OLIVER GERRISH were appointed a Committee on Printing, and instructed to cause to be published three hundred copies of the proceedings of this communication, and to reserve twenty-five copies for the use of this Grand Chapter.

Comp. C. B. SMITH offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That inasmuch as no return has been received by this Grand Chapter, from York Chapter, since the year 1830, the charter of said York Chapter is hereby declared forfeited, and the Grand Treasurer directed to demand the charter, seal and records of said Chapter of such persons as may have them in possession.

On motion, the vote upon the resolution providing for publishing the Constitution and General Regulations of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, and other matters, was re-considered, and the same was referred to the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Chapter was then called off till two o'clock P. M.

APRIL 30, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor.

Present as at morning session.

On motion of Comp. JOSEPH COVELL, the subject of the location of Jerusalem Chapter was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants.

On motion of Comp. TIMOTHY CHASE,

Voted, To pay the Grand Secretary the sum of twenty dollars for his services the past year.

Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD, from the committee appointed to consider the communication from the Ill. Grand Council of Georgia, presented the following report and resolution, which were adopted:

The committee to whom was referred the communication of the Grand Council of Georgia, adopted in convention on the eighth of May, 5849, and the answer thereto made by direction of our M. E. Grand High Priest, ask leave to report, and submit the following resolution.

The subject matter of the communication relates to the evil that has long existed in this country, growing out of the diversified manner in which the Royal and Select Master's degrees have hitherto been conferred. The object appears to be to effect a more perfect uniformity; and a convention of dele-

gates is proposed to be held at Boston at the time of the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in September next, in order to adopt some measures conducive to a uniform system in the government of the Order. Your committee have not time to go into an elaborate or extended report of the history of those degrees at the present time, for that would necessarily open too wide a range; nor can they present the reasons that are urged by the several Grand Bodies wherein those degrees are cultivated, why they should be conferred under the sanction of Grand Councils or Grand Chapters, or neither of those Bodies. They can merely state that there is no uniformity in this respect throughout the United States, and that this want of uniformity jeopardizes the peace and harmony of our institution. With the hope and belief that some good may grow out of the proposed convention, your committee recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That a delegation of three be chosen from this Grand Chapter to unite with others in forming a convention to be holden at Boston, on the second Tuesday of September next, for the purpose of creating a uniform jurisdiction over the Council degrees throughout the United States.

F. BRADFORD, *per order.*

Comp's J. PURINTON, TIMOTHY CHASE and STEPHEN WEBBER were appointed a committee to nominate three delegates to attend the convention proposed to be held in Boston in September next, for the purpose specified in the foregoing resolution; and Comp. J. PURINTON, from said committee, reported the names of Comp's R. P. DUNLAP, TIMOTHY CHASE and FREEMAN BRADFORD, who were accordingly appointed.

Comp. JOHN WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, made the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, to whom was referred the subject of the location of Jerusalem Chapter at Augusta, report:

That they have attended to the duty assigned them, and, having heard the statements and explanations of three members of said Chapter, who appeared before them, are of the opinion that the dispensation of the Grand High Priest, fixing the location of said Chapter at Augusta during the pleasure of the Grand Chapter, was judicious and expedient; and the committee deem it inexpedient for the Grand Chapter at present to take any further action upon the subject.

JOHN WILLIAMS,
C. B. SMITH,
H. C. LOVELL, } *Committee.*

Comp. GERRISH, from the Committee on Returns of Subordinates, made the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned them, and find that returns have been received from all the Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter except York Chapter, which has ceased working.

All the Chapters have paid the dues required by the by-laws, except Montgomery Royal Arch Chapter.

New Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter omitted to make a return to the Annual Communication of this Grand Chapter last year, and the omission still remains.

The following table will exhibit the number of members returned, exaltations, the number that have received the Royal and Select degrees, and the amount received from each Chapter, viz:

	Members.	Exaltations.	Royal and Select Masters.	Dues.
Mount Vernon,	113	14	3	$40.00
Montgomery,	45	2	0	——
New Jerusalem,	19	8	0	25.00
Jerusalem,	34	8	0	28.13
Mount Moriah,	40	5	6	23.60
Corinthian,	29	10	7	32.50
King Solomon's	23	5	0	23.36
	303	52	16	$172.59

Your committee would recommend that New Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter be required to make a return of the doings of said Chapter, as is required by the by-laws, for the masonic year ending April 1, 1849, and forward it immediately, with the amount due, to the Grand Treasurer.

Your committee would also recommend that Montgomery Royal Arch Chapter be required to remit immediately the amount due as per return to the Grand Treasurer.

OLIVER GERRISH, } *Committee.*
JABEZ TRUE, }

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to notify the delinquents named in the foregoing report, and request that they forthwith make their returns and remit their dues to the Grand Treasurer as required by law.

Comp. JAMES PRATT, from the Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers, made the following report, which, after full discussion, was adopted:

The committee to whom was referred the doings of the Grand Officers, and the matters in controversy between the Chapters at East Thomaston and Wiscasset, have attended to their duty, and beg leave to report as follows:

First.—In the doings of the Grand Officers, they find nothing requiring their particular attention. All things seem to have been done in order and according to ancient usage, and they recommend that their acts be approved.

Second.—In relation to the controversy between the Chapters at East Thomaston and Wiscasset, they beg leave to state, as their unanimous conviction, that the laws of masonry require, invariably, that the jewels, regalia, and other properties, follow the charter. Consequently, notwithstanding it may seem severe in its operation upon the Chapter at East Thomaston, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Companions to whom the properties of New Jerusalem Chapter have been entrusted be, and hereby are, required to pass the same over to said New Jerusalem Chapter on demand.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES PRATT, *per order.*

On motion of Comp. CHASE,

Voted, To proceed to the installation of the officers elect.

Whereupon the Chair was taken by M. E. Comp. R. P. DUNLAP, Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, who, assisted by M. E. Past Grand High Priest FREEMAN BRADFORD, as Grand Marshal, proceeded to install into their respective chairs—

M. E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	JOHN WILLIAMS,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	TIMOTHY CHASE,	*Grand King.*
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" *Secretary.*

The M. E. Grand High Priest then made the following appointments, who were also installed by the M. E. Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States:

Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	"	"
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	"	"
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	"	"
"	F. A. HODSDON, Levant,	"	"
E.	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, Bath,	"	*Marshal.*
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	S. B. DODGE, E. Thomaston,	"	"
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	"	"
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	"	"
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	"	*Sentinel.*

At the close of the installation, the Grand Marshal made proclamation of the due organization of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, and the Chair was taken by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

Comp. CHARLES B. SMITH, from the Committee on Finance, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee of Finance respectfully report:

That they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find that there was a balance in his hands, at the close of the last Annual Communication, of $189.15, since which time he has received from Subordinate Chapters the sum of $183.36, making the sum of $372.51.

That he has paid per votes of the Grand Chapter, and on bills approved by the Committee of Finance, the sum of $210.25, which, deducted from the amount received, leaves in his hands the sum of $162.26. There is also in his hands, standing to the credit of the Charity Fund, the sum of $6.28. The Grand Secretary has received no funds, and presents no account.

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer have been neatly and correctly kept, and his disbursements properly vouched.

C. B. SMITH,
F. BRADFORD, } *Committee.*
LORY BACON,

The Grand Chapter was then called off till Wednesday morning at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, May 1, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter assembled and resumed labor.

Present as yesterday, excepting M. E. Grand High Priest HUMPHREYS.

M. E. Dep. G. H. Priest WILLIAMS in the Chair.

Comp's R. P. DUNLAP and CHARLES B. SMITH exemplified the lectures in the Mark Master's and Royal Arch degrees.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Chapter finally closed in ancient form.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

CONVENTION OF PAST HIGH PRIESTS.

MASONS' HALL, April 30, 1850.

A Convention of Past High Priests was organized by the choice of M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, President, and M. E. A. B. THOMPSON, Secretary.

PRESENT.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, *President.*
" F. BRADFORD.
" C. B. SMITH.
" OLIVER GERRISH.
" J. C. HUMPHREYS.
" A. B. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

Application having been made for the order of High Priesthood from M. E. SAMUEL S. WING, Past High Priest of Montgomery Chapter, at Brunswick, and M. E. SCOTT J. TALLMAN, High Priest of Montgomery Chapter, at Bath, accompanied by satisfactory testimonials of their elections to the office of High Priest, the Convention cheerfully complied with their requests, and duly anointed them as such.

These proceedings were ordered by the Convention to be presented to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, with the request that they may be recorded and published with the procedings of that Body.

The Convention then closed.

Attest: A. B. THOMPSON.

A true copy as presented to me for record.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES,
Grand Secretary of G. R. A. C. of Maine.

MASONS' HALL, May 1, 1850.

A Convention of Past High Priests was organized by the choice of M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, President, and M. E. OLIVER GERRISH, Secretary.

PRESENT.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, *President.*
" C. B. SMITH.
" F. BRADFORD.
" OLIVER GERRISH, *Secretary.*

Applications having been made for the order of High Priesthood from M. E. JOHN WILLIAMS, High Priest of Mt. Moriah Chapter, at Bangor, M. E. ANSEL LENNAN, High Priest of Corinthian Chapter, at Belfast, and M. E. JOHN B. MANGE, High Priest of New Jerusalem Chapter, at Wiscasset, accompanied by satisfactory testimonials of their elections to the office of High Priest, the Convention cheerfully complied with their requests, and duly anointed them as such.

These Proceedings were ordered by the Convention to be presented to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, with the request that they may be recorded and published with the proceedings of that Body.

The convention then closed.

Attest: OLIVER GERRISH.

A true copy as presented to me for record.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES,
Grand Secretary of G. R. A. C. of Maine.

OFFICERS

OF THE

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

INSTALLED APRIL 30, A. L. 5850.

M. E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, Brunswick,	Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN WILLIAMS, Bangor,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE, Belfast,	Grand King.
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	" Scribe.
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, Portland,	" Secretary.
"	JEREMIAH ELLSWORTH, Bath,	" Marshal.
Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	" Chaplain.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	" "
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	" "
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	" "
"	F. A. HODSDON, Levant,	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	" Steward.
"	S. B. DODGE, East Thomaston,	" "
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	" "
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	" Sentinel.

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER—PORTLAND.

M. E.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, ...	High Priest.
E.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, ...	King.
"	JOHN PURINTON, ...	Scribe.
Comp.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	Treasurer.
"	SETH BIRD, ...	Secretary.

Comp.	William Allen,	Capt. of Host.
"	Joseph Smith,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Charles Fobes,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	James R. Milliken,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	John B. Coyle,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Richard W. Kennard,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Joel Whitney,	Steward.
"	John Dain,	"
"	Isaac Davis,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 14.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER—Bangor.

M. E.	John Williams,	High Priest.
E.	Joseph C. Stevens,	King.
"	Eli Haskins,	Scribe.
Comp.	Isaac W. Patten,	Treasurer.
"	Silas Alden,	Secretary.
"	Benjamin S. Dean,	Capt. of Host.
"	Jonathan Burbank,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	S. B. Brown,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Jabez True,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	E. G. Rawson,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Arad Dudley,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	E. R. Sands,	Steward.
"	Samuel Buffum,	"
"	Simeon Everton,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 5.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Hallowell.

M. E.	Stephen Webber,	High Priest.
E.	B. A. G. Fuller,	King.
"	Stephen Lord,	Scribe.
Comp.	John Dorr,	Treasurer.
"	Lory Bacon,	Secretary.
"	Thomas Clark,	Capt. of Host.
"	Alvin T. Perkins,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	B. F. Chandler,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Eli Wills,	M. of 3d Vail.

Comp.	Leonard Goss,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Thomas Nye,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Peter Vigoureaux,	Steward.
"	Jacob H. Arnold,	"
"	William Nye,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 8.

MONTGOMERY CHAPTER—Brunswick.

M. E.	Scott J. Tallman,	High Priest.
E.	A. B. Thompson,	King.
"	John D. Lincoln,	Scribe.
Comp.	Richard Greenleaf,	Treasurer.
"	Ephraim Brown,	Secretary.
"	Samuel S. Wing,	Capt. of Host.
"	John C. Humphreys,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Jere. Ellsworth,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Theodore S. McLellan,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Robert Bowker,	M of 2d Vail.
"	Octavius A. Merrill,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	George Earle,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 2.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER—Belfast.

M. E.	Ansel Lennan,	High Priest.
E.	Timothy Chase,	King.
"	Josiah Farrow,	Scribe.
Comp.	James P. Furber,	Treasurer.
"	Oshea Page,	Secretary.
"	H. G. O. Washburn,	Capt. of Host.
"	H. H. Kimball,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Benjamin Kelly,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	E. H. Hill,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Joseph Dennett, Jr.,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	L. B. Wetherbee,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Joseph S. Noyes,	Steward.
"	Wm. Hall,	"
"	Ezekiel Burgess,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 8.

NEW JERUSALEM CHAPTER—WISCASSET.

M. E.	JOHN B. MANGE,	High Priest.
E.	ASA F. HALL,	King.
"	JAMES TAYLOR,	Scribe.
Comp.	WARREN RICE,	Treasurer.
"	ELISHA MCKENNEY,	Secretary.
"	THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	Capt. of Host.
"	HENRY CLARK,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	EDMOND CONNER,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	E. G. WEBBER,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	ABNER PACKARD,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	THOMAS P. JORDAN,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	ALFRED MCLEAN,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 8.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER—EAST THOMASTON.

M. E.	D. M. MITCHELL,	High Priest.
E.	SAMUEL LIBBY,	King.
"	S. B. DODGE,	Scribe.
Comp.	CHARLES HOLMES,	Treasurer.
"	E. H. COCHRAIN,	Secretary.
"	O. P. MITCHELL,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	LARKIN SNOW,	Capt. of Host.
"	S. G. DENNIS,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	F. CONNEY,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	JAMES KEELER,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	M. TALLMAN,	Steward.
"	STEPHEN BURROWS,	"
"	JOSIAH S. BROWN,	Sentinel.

Number exalted during the past year, 5.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1851.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine assembled in Masons' Hall, in the city of Bangor, on Tuesday, the 24th day of June, A. L. 5851, A. D. 1851, at nine o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, ...	Grand High Priest.
"	JOHN WILLIAMS, ...	Dep. G. H. Priest.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE, ...	Grand King.
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON, . . .	" Scribe.
"	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, ...	" Secretary.
Rev. & E.	CYRIL PEARL, ...	" Chaplain.
"	JONATHAN BURBANK, . . .	" " *pro tem.*
Comp.	FREEMAN BRADFORD, . . .	" Capt. of Host.
"	LEWIS BARKER, ...	" Prin. Sojourner.
"	L. BACON, ...	" R. A. Captain.
"	JOSEPH C. STEVENS, . . .	" M. of 3d V.
"	JOSEPH LEAVITT, ...	" M. of 2d V.
"	JOSEPH COVELL, ...	" M. of 1st V.
"	LORY BACON, ...	" Steward.
"	SCOTT J. TALLMAN, ...	" Marshal, *pro tem.*
"	SIMEON EVERTON, ...	" Sentinel, *pro tem.*

And several Permanent Members, and a due representation from the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

The above named Grand Officers having taken their respective

stations, the Grand Chapter was opened in ample form by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

Prayer was offered by Comp. JONATHAN BURBANK, Grand Chaplain, *pro tem.*

On motion of Comp. S. J. TALLMAN, it was

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, the same having been published and placed in the hands of the members.

Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the following Standing Committees be appointed by the Grand High Priest, to wit:

A Committee on Credentials.
A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.
A Committee on Dispensations and Charters.
A Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Chapters.
A Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appointed the following Standing Committees, viz:

On Credentials.—Comp's S. J. TALLMAN, LORY BACON, FREEMAN BRADFORD.

On Returns of Subordinates.—Comp's OLIVER GERRISH, SAMUEL LIBBY, SCOTT J. TALLMAN.

On the Doings of the Grand Officers.—Comp's FREEMAN BRADFORD, LORY BACON, W. H. MILLS.

On Grievances and Appeals.—Comp's W. H. MILLS, JOSEPH COVELL, D. L. MITCHELL.

On Dispensations and Warrants.—Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH, LORY BACON, ANSEL LENNAN.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Comp's CYRIL PEARL, JOSEPH C. STEVENS, JOSEPH COVELL.

Comp. S. J. TALLMAN, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report, which was accepted, viz:

The Committee on Credentials having attended to the duty assigned them, ask leave to report:

That all the Subordinate Chapters within this jurisdiction, excepting New Jerusalem Chapter, located at Wiscasset, are represented in this Convention, as follows:

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—

Comp. JOSEPH C. STEVENS, proxy for High Priest.
" SAMUEL B. BROWN, proxy for King.
" LEWIS BARKER, proxy for Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter, Bath, by—

Comp. SCOTT J. TALLMAN, High Priest.
" S. J. TALLMAN, proxy for King.
" A. B. THOMPSON, proxy for Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter, Augusta, by—

Comp. SAMUEL LIBBY, proxy for High Priest.
" LORY BACON, proxy for King.
" JOSEPH COVELL, proxy for Scribe.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—

Comp. W. H. MILLS, High Priest.
" JABEZ TRUE, King.
" E. G. RAWSON, Scribe.

Corinthian Chapter, Belfast, by—

Comp. ANSEL LENNAN, High Priest.
" TIMOTHY CHASE, King.
" JOSEPH S. NOYES, proxy for Scribe.

King Solomon's Chapter, Rockland, by—

Comp. D. M. MITCHELL, High Priest.
" SAMUEL LIBBY, King.

There were also present the following named Permanent Members and proxies for Permanent Members, to wit:

Comp. A. B. THOMPSON, P. G. H. P.,
" OLIVER GERRISH, P. G. H. P.,
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, P. G. H. P.,
" CHARLES B. SMITH, P. G. S.,
" JONATHAN BURBANK, proxy for SAM'L FESSENDEN, P. D. G. H. P.,
" OLIVER GERRISH, proxy for JAMES C. CHURCHILL, P. G. H. P.,
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, proxy for J. P. BOYD, P. G. K.,
" PERCIVAL CLEMENTINE, proxy for T. S. BOWLES, P. D. G. H. P.,
" SAMUEL F. HERSEY, proxy for J. M. GERRISH, P. D. G. H. P.,
" J. C. HUMPHREYS, proxy for R. P. DUNLAP, P. G. H. P.

All which is respectfully submitted by

S. J. TALLMAN,
F. BRADFORD,
L. BACON, } *Committee.*

On motion of Comp. J. C. STEVENS, it was

Voted, That all Royal Arch Masons in regular standing be admitted to visit this Grand Chapter and witness its proceedings.

Comp. ALLEN HAINES laid before the Grand Chapter a communication from the Municipal authorities of the city of Portland, inviting this Body to participate with them in the celebration of the coming anniversary of our National Independence, which was read and ordered to be placed on file; and the thanks of this Grand Chapter were tendered to said authorities for their courteous invitation.

Comp. GERRISH made the following report relative to York Chapter, which was accepted:

The Grand Treasurer having been directed, by a resolution adopted at the last convocation, to demand the charter, seal and records of York Chapter of such persons as may have them in possession, most respectfully reports:

That he has received the charter of said Chapter from Comp. J. TUCKER, ESQ., of Salem, Mass.; and has ascertained that the records have been destroyed, and that the seal is in the hands of an individual who claims it as private property.

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVER GERRISH, *Grand Treasurer.*

On motion of Comp. COVELL, it was

Voted, To proceed to the election of Grand Officers at four o'clock P. M., and to the installation immediately after the election.

The Grand Chapter then adjourned, to meet at 2:15 o'clock P. M.

TUESDAY, June 24, 1851, 2:15 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, M. E. Grand High Priest HUMPHREYS in the Chair.

Comp. CYRIL PEARL, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was read and accepted:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The memory of departed excellence is always pleasant and profitable when our souls are in harmony with the virtues and principles of the wise and the good who have gone before us to their rest and reward. May we not feel a hallowed influence pervading our Annual Communication, occurring as it does on the anniversary of the great reformer, who is revered by us as the pioneer of Christianity as well as the patron Saint of our Order?

As we assemble to greet Companions and exchange fraternal sympathies with those now entrusted with the ark of the covenant, the altar and the incense of our earthly temple, let us cherish the sterling virtues and the fervent zeal of him who proclaimed repentance, and prepared the way of the Lord, in an age when darkness covered the earth and gross darkness the people. We will rejoice together while we revere the memory of the Baptist, that the echo of that voice which cried in the wilderness has reached our day and encircled the world, so that now the herald of reform can proclaim repentance and reprove rulers, without embracing martyrdom as the penalty. By what slow and varied processes have light and truth and Love advanced since John the Baptist was beheaded for his fidelity to truth and duty, and yet the influence of his thrilling appeals and the truths he proclaimed has never lost its power or its hold on the convictions of mankind. His burning words now ring in the ears of mortals, as if the fears of Herod had been realized, and the old prophet had indeed arisen from the dead. In this imperishable energy of truth and holy zeal in the discharge of duty, we find great encouragement to act well our part in life, and to hold fast and spread abroad light and truth, and devote our noblest energies for the welfare of our race. In our masonic labors we have much to encourage us in view of the experience of the Saint whose life and teachings this day so vividly recalls. Be it our purpose to profit by the lesson, and stir up each other to the practice of the purest virtues—the performance of worthy deeds. May we so fulfill the duties of the day and illustrate the excellence of our principles, that we shall send forth a wave of encouragement to the excellent Companions who greet us with their salutations from the several Grand Chapters of the Union.

We are favored with the published proceedings of the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, Indiana, Wisconsin, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Missouri, Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida. Also the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the United States at its communication in Boston, in September, 1850, together with its Constitution.

These documents give evidence that this department of masonry is in a highly prosperous condition, and is accomplishing an important work in the progress of the age. It is to be remembered that in the revival of masonry the progress and prosperity of the Chapter must necessarily be subsequent to the prosperity of the Lodges, for the good reason that its members must all be versed in the work of the Lodge before entering the Chapter. It is manifest

that the tide of prosperity is now setting rapidly in this direction, and there is a corresponding necessity for earnest and skillful administration of this department of masonic jurisprudence. This conviction seems to pervade the Grand Chapters whose proceedings have reached us, and yet there does not appear to be evidence that all the departments of labor are yet as well matured, and systematized, as in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges. This is especially the case in the reports on Foreign Correspondence, which in general it is to be regretted are not full or specific and instructive as it is hoped they will be hereafter. The reason of this, however, is obvious, and has already been referred to. It must be the work of time and experience. In many of the Chapters, as in our own, these committees have but recently been appointed, and they can as yet have had but limited opportunity to explore the rich fields of inquiry which are open before them. In removing the rubbish preparatory to building a second edifice, it would be strange if all the treasures that may lie buried in the ruins, where vandal hands had demolished a former structure, should be discovered and reclaimed at once; but time and patient research will bring to light rich vestiges and memorials of the past and substantial treasures for future use. Even the General Grand Chapter has failed to give us the example of a report of Correspondence in the ordinary form; and several of the Grand Chapters show their regret, at the failure of such a report, in their own communications, by adopting prompt measures for securing this feature hereafter. In the absence of these sources of information in many of the returns, we can give only a proximate view of the condition and progress of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States. It should also be observed, that of the twenty-two Grand Chapters which recognize the General Grand Chapter, we have returns from only twelve.

The Grand Chapters of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Florida do not sympathize with the General Grand Chapter, although that of Florida is enrolled on its list. The Grand Chapter of Texas also declined a connection with the General Grand Chapter; but that Body has relinquished its organization, and its subordinates have taken new charters from the General Grand Chapter.

The number of Subordinate Chapters which are under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter is twenty-two. Of these, two are in New Jersey, three in Iowa, three in Wisconsin, four in Arkansas, nine in Texas, and one in California.

It seems a happy provision for the new States of the Union that the General Grand Chapter has jurisdiction in all our States and Territories where no Grand Chapter exists, and thus its fostering care can be extended with great advantage, and no danger need arise from conflicting jurisdictions and diversity of work, as might be the case if our Companions in these new regions were left to search for their masonic authority and instructions from the adjacent State Grand Chapters. The M. E. General Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, King and Scribe have each the authority to issue

dispensations for new Chapters between the sessions of the General Grand Chapter, and, as they are usually located in different sections of the country, they have facilities for a general supervision of the interests of the Order in the new States.

The last triennial session of the General Grand Chapter was held in Boston in September last, at which time Maine was again honored by the installation of our M. E. Companion R. P. DUNLAP, the M. E. G. G. H. Priest; M. E. JOSEPH K. STAPLETON, of Maryland, D. G. G. H. Priest; M. E. WILLIS STEWART, of Kentucky, G. G. King; M. E. THOMAS H. LEWIS, of Louisiana, G. G. Scribe; M. E. BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, of District of Columbia, G. G. Secretary; M. E. EDWARD A. RAYMOND, of Massachusetts, G. G. Treasurer; M. E. PAUL DEAN, of Massachusetts, G. G. Chaplain; M. E. N. B. HASWELL, of Vermont, G. G. Marshal. In view of the diversity of feeling and sentiment sometimes expressed in reference to the existence of the General Grand Chapter, Comp. TUPPER, of Mississippi, offered the following resolution, which was laid upon the table:

"*Resolved,* That the committee appointed to designate the place for holding the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter be and they are hereby instructed to inquire and report as to the expediency of abolishing this General Grand Chapter, and of recommending the adoption of the same course by all other General Grand Bodies in the United States, with the view of establishing in their place a General Convocation of Masonic Delegates representing all State Grand Bodies, to meet annually or triennially at some central location, for the purpose of exercising a general legislative jurisdiction over all Masonic Bodies in the United States."

No action seems to have been taken on this resolution, but it will doubtless tend to awaken attention and inquiry; and as a very extensive desire has been expressed for the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, it is well worthy of consideration whether an arrangement might not be effected by which the several departments of the masonic fraternity might all be represented in general convocation, through which a happy influence, a general harmony and uniformity, and a healthful impulse, be diffused as from a central head and heart to all the members of the household of masonry.

It is obvious that each of the departments of the Order might derive a benefit from an occasional meeting of representatives from all parts of our country and the interchange of fraternal greetings and counsels in the masonic family, and as the Grand Encampments and the Grand Chapters have each their general organizations or recognized head, and as Grand Lodges have as yet failed in several attempts to organize a General Grand Lodge, the suggestion is worthy of consideration. The committee on fixing the time and place of the next meeting of the General Grand Chapter were instructed to correspond with a committee of the General Grand Encampment for the purpose of fixing upon a place for the permanent sessions of that Body, and with power to agree upon the place for the permanent meetings of both. This may be an important step towards the creation of a General Grand Lodge, or of a General Convocation which shall represent and promote the interests of all.

Your committee do not deem it necessary to go into the discussion of the question of the expediency or merits of the General Grand Chapter, or to detail the complaints and objections urged by some of the Grand Chapters which do not sympathize with that Body. The Body has been created, and has evidently a healthful and vigorous existence. Its last report, the only one in the hands of your committee, demonstrates its masonic ability and its title to respect. It is yet in its youth, but is evidently advancing rapidly to a vigorous manhood, and is, at least, entitled to a fair trial till it reaches maturity, or shows itself unworthy of our confidence. If we mistake not, there is already evidence of its utility which far outweighs all objections urged by its enemies, even if they were entitled to all the force claimed by those whose object is to find fault. There is evidence of the necessity for such a central Body, and if defects are pointed out either in its organic laws or its official acts, there is manifest the ability and the disposition to re-examine and re-construct as duty and necessity or reason and experience may dictate. A sensible view of the importance of the General Grand Chapter is happily presented in a memorial of the M. E. High Priest of the New Era Royal Arch Chapter, of the State of Louisiana. In a document in which he takes exception to one of the decisions of the General Grand Chapter, he yet sustains that Body by a course of reasoning worthy of regard. He says:

"Your memorialist would further most respectfully represent that, for some time past, much has been said and written to show that the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter has not fulfilled the objects of its creation, and that it is both unnecessary and even prejudicial to the interests of the Order, and it is not improbable that some effort may be made at the next communication of that Grand Body to dissolve it.

"Now, your memorialist respectfully represents that, without entering into the consideration of whether that Grand Body has or has not fulfilled all the active duties which might have been anticipated from it, and which it might easily be shown that its very organization presents, without any blame being justly attributed to it or its officers, yet the moral weight and influence which it exercises on the Order are so generally felt as fully to justify its continuance, should it fulfill no other purpose. But it is evident that it is to the existence of that Body alone we owe the harmony existing between what would otherwise be conflicting jurisdictions; and it is only a Body constituted as it is which is capable of settling difficulties such as have arisen in this State and Texas—in short, all such questions as it is evident no single State Grand Chapter could decide, and on which there might probably be a division of opinions among the others. The difficulties between the craft masons of this State, and the differences of opinion among the State Grand Lodges upon the same, afford a striking illustration of the necessity of such a Body, and the history of the General Grand Chapter shows how well that Body is adapted to such an emergency, and how ably she has coped with it. In this State, we owe her everything, and, having felt her utility and protection, should be recreant to duty and gratitude did we not struggle manfully in her support. Your memorialist therefore prays that this Grand Chapter will, for the good of the Order, use every effort for the maintenance of the existence of the General Grand Chapter."

This testimony from Louisiana is of high importance, in view of the long pending controversy which has afflicted the Order in that State, and connected as it is with an earnest appeal from one of the decisions of the General

Grand Chapter at a former communication. That appeal was in reference to the decision in relation to the case of Royal Arch Masons hailing from the jurisdiction of Great Britain. It is, perhaps, generally understood that in English Craft Masonry the Royal Arch degree is conferred in the Lodges in close relation with the Master's degree, and is the fourth in order, not being separated, as with us, from the Lodges, or preceded by the degrees of Past Master, Mark Master and Most Excellent Master. English Royal Arch Masons, therefore, in the United States are not qualified by the reception of these, which are sometimes termed intercalary degrees, to sit in Royal Arch Chapters as constituted in this country. To obviate this difficulty, the General Grand Chapter, in 1844, responded to applications for admission by Royal Arch Masons thus situated by adopting an ordinance authorizing Chapters under its jurisdiction to confer without charge on any Companion Royal Arch Mason, proving himself such, and hailing from without the jurisdiction of the United States, "the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, so that thereby they might be made regular Royal Arch Masons." Against this decision the memorial from the M. E. High Priest of the New Era Chapter remonstrates, and argues at length and with decided ability. This memorial was duly considered at the last communication of the General Grand Chapter and reported upon by an able committee. This report was adopted and the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter amended accordingly, re-affirming the previous action of the General Grand Chapter, and exempting Subordinate Chapters from paying any dues for conferring said degrees upon such Royal Arch Masons.

The same memorial pleads for a lenient and liberal policy, in reference to those Royal Arch Masons who have been exalted during the controversy in Louisiana, in connection with Chapters not recognized as legitimate. It is urged that such have become sensible of their errors and would gladly abandon their present organization could they be assured of a favorable reception from the recognized Grand Chapter of Louisiana. Resolutions in accordance with this memorial were adopted at the session of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, and we may hope that the influence of the General Grand Chapter may yet be felt in consummating so desirable a result as the Union of all Royal Arch Masons in Louisiana under its jurisdiction.

COUNCIL DEGREES.

One of the most perplexing questions which have claimed the attention of the General and State Grand Chapters, is in reference to the degrees of Royal and Select Master, usually denominated Council degrees. Diversity of opinion has existed as to the proper jurisdiction of these degrees, and their proper place in the order of masonic progress. Some of the State Grand Chapters have maintained that these are appendages to the Royal Arch degree and belong of right to the Royal Arch Chapter. Others insist that they belong to a dis-

tinct jurisdiction, and can be conferred only in a regularly organized Council. Then it has been questioned whence the authority to organize such Councils is derived. At a former meeting of the General Grand Chapter, an ordinance was adopted authorizing all State Grand Chapters and subordinates under its jurisdiction to exercise control of these degrees unless in States where Grand Councils already existed claiming such control. By some eminent masonic authorities, the right of the General Grand Chapter to legislate for these degrees was called in question, and, at the last communication, a committee was raised to inquire into the expediency of forming a General Grand Council for the Royal and Select Master's degrees in the United States. This committee subsequently reported: "That it is inexpedient for the General Grand Chapter to take any action on the subject of forming a General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters; which report was adopted." Thus this perplexing question remains as heretofore, in the hands of the Chapters, except in those cases where independent Councils exist for its regulation.

CONFERRING OF CHAPTER DEGREES ON MAIMED MASTER MASONS.

In reply to various questions as to the propriety of conferring the Chapter degrees on persons in any degree maimed, a committee was raised at the last General Grand Communication, which reported specifically in relation to a case proposed by Comp. GRAFF, of Ohio, where the candidate for the degrees had but one arm. This committee submitted with their report, through M. E. Comp. TUCKER, of Vermont, the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That hereafter it shall be considered competent for a Royal Arch Chapter to confer the Chapter degrees on a Master Mason having but one arm."

This report was subsequently discussed, and a second time laid on the table, when Comp. TALLMAN, of Maine, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to report at the next Triennial meeting, whether any of the Chapter degrees may be conferred on persons maimed or otherwise imperfect in body."

On this committee Comp's TUCKER, of Vermont, GOULD, of Georgia, and TALLMAN, of Maine, were appointed, who doubtless will present a mature report on the questions which have excited so much interest in our Lodges as well as Chapters.

APPEALS FROM A DECISION OF THE G. H. PRIEST.

The question whether an appeal can be taken by a member of a Royal Arch Masonic Body, from a decision of the presiding officer on a question of order, was submitted to a committee consisting of Comp's HUBBARD, BRADFORD and FRENCH, who reported that, in their opinion, and according to the usages of masonry from time immemorial, no such appeal can be taken. The following resolution, submitted by the committee, was adopted:

"*Resolved,* That according to the usages of masonry from time immemorial, *on a question of order,* no appeal can of right be taken from the decision of a presiding officer in any Royal Arch Chapter, to the Body over which he presides."

REPRESENTATIVE FUND FOR THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

Another subject which received attention at the last communication of the General Grand Chapter was the creation of a fund by which the expenses of delegates to that Body may be defrayed, and thus one objection against its existence be removed, especially on the part of remote Grand Chapters, and those least able to defray the expenses of representation. An able report was presented on this subject, exhibiting the difficulties of the existing practice of that Body, and a series of resolutions recommending the creation of a Representative Fund by an assessment of $50 on each Grand Chapter entitled to representation in the General Grand Chapter, from which fund one representative from each Grand Chapter shall receive three cents per mile traveled by the nearest mail route going and returning; and $1.50 for each day actually in attendance in the General Grand Chapter.

UNIFORMITY IN THE WORK OF THE ORDER.

We find the General Grand Chapter also earnestly striving to promote accuracy and uniformity of work. At the last session a large committee, of which the M. E. General Grand High Priest was chairman, submitted the following written report, which embodies the result of their deliberations:

"*To the General Grand Chapter of the United States.*

"The undersigned, the Committee on Work and Lectures, have endeavored to discharge the very important and responsible duties devolved upon us, by a close and attentive consideration of and application to the subject matter confided to us. We were deeply sensible of the importance and necessity of uniformity in the work of Arch Masonry in the United States, not only as a question of convenience and expediency, but as a matter of grave principle.

"The manner in which the work was exemplified is already known to this General Grand Chapter, and we cannot forbear expressing our deep sense of obligation to the Officers and Companions of St. Paul's Chapter, of Boston, for their prompt and ready compliance with the wishes of this General Grand Chapter in exemplifying the work of the Chapter degrees in their presence, and at great inconvenience to the much esteemed Companions of that Chapter, and their accomplished presiding officer, M. E. Comp. STEPHEN LOVELL. Perhaps we could not have more deeply expressed our gratification than by doing as we have done—making it the basis upon which to act, and to which we have added, varied, and modified, as we deemed consistent with the ancient landmarks of Royal Arch Masonry.

"We have already said that we have regarded uniformity as necessary and vitally important, and we wish to propose such plan as shall not only promote, but maintain it. But by uniformity we do not wish to be understood as perfect sameness of expression. We have avoided verbal criticism and the fixing modes of expression, aiming only at uniformity of action; and have only retained peculiar words and phrases where they were necessary to elucidate and give force to some principle.

"The committee were gratified, on assembling, to find that, although repre-

senting every section of the Union, there was so little essential difference in the mode and manner of the work; and all such essential differences we have aimed to reconcile and remove. The slight variance even in the modes of expression was remarkable, when we consider the peculiarities of the vernacular tongue in different sections of the United States.

"The committee will add another remark: that, while we do regard unity and even identity of language as desirable, yet we perceive that it is neither attainable nor practicable; nor do we regard it as necessary, except in the cases above cited. The object of all language is to express ideas, of which words are but the arbitrary symbols; and as in masonry certain great moral as well as religious truths are developed and illustrated—valuable to man both here and hereafter, and teaching him his duty to his Maker, his country, his social circle, and to himself, and especially to the great family of Man—if those truths are but conveyed to the mind intelligently, forcibly, truthfully, and yet so agreeably as to bring the mind to love that truth, then the great end and object of our institution has been answered.

"We herewith submit our verbal report of the conclusions to which the committee have arrived, and to which we invite your careful consideration and attention.

"But the committee feel that they have not fully discharged their duty without adverting to some plan to make the result of their labors available. This has been with us a subject of anxious care and thought. We have already observed that uniformity and the preservation of the great principles and landmarks of Royal Arch Masonry has been the object sought by us.

"As some time will elapse before the system here agreed on can be disseminated, and as we have not professed to perfect all the details of the system, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

ROBERT P. DUNLAP,
THOS. H. LEWIS,
PAUL DEAN,
NATHANIEL COFFIN,
BENJAMIN HUNTOON,
THOS. WHITAKER,
L. L. STEPHENSON,
JOHN L. LEWIS, JR.,
STEPHEN LOVELL,
JAMES V. Z. BLANEY."

M. E. Comp. LEWIS, JR., of New York, assisted by M. E. Comp. LOVELL, of Massachusetts, also presented the verbal report of the Committee on Work, which, after careful consideration and discussion, was unanimously adopted as the work sanctioned by this General Grand Chapter for the use of the Chapters under its jurisdiction, and the following resolutions were adopted in regard to the diffusion of the necessary instructions on Work and Language among its subordinates:

"*Resolved*, That in all things not decided upon at this meeting of the General Grand Chapter, as a system of work to be observed in Chapters under this jurisdiction, the work and lectures remain as they were, or may be modified under the supervision and direction of the presiding officers of the several Chapters and Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction, until otherwise further directed by the General Grand Chapter.

"*Resolved*, That for the purpose of introducing the mode of work and lectures now agreed upon, the first four officers of this General Grand Chapter be requested to take such measures as they may think best for diffusing, as extensively as may be, the knowledge of the same to the several Chapters under this jurisdiction."

THE ACTION OF CHAPTERS IN RELATION TO MASONS EXPELLED FROM A BLUE LODGE.

It has been a question, whether expulsion from a Master Mason's Lodge should be regarded as operating so as to destroy membership in the Chapter. The views and usages of Chapters have not been uniform in this matter, and the opinions and decisions of the General Grand Chapter have been sought in the premises. At the last communication, M. E. Comp. LEWIS, of New York, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this General Grand Chapter, all persons who have been expelled or suspended for unmasonic conduct, by any regular Lodge or Grand Lodge of competent jurisdiction, from all the rights and privileges of masonry, should be forbidden to visit or sit in any Grand or Subordinate Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction, or in the General Grand Chapter; and that it is the duty of Royal Arch Masons to abstain from communication with persons so expelled, or suspended, until they shall be duly restored to those rights and privileges."

In reporting thus fully on the doings of the General Grand Chapter, the committee have hoped that an acceptable service might be rendered to the subordinates of this Grand Chapter, and at the same time present a fair illustration of the practical operations of that Body, that all might see and judge for themselves of its action, its necessity and utility. It would seem as if that Body, by its late action, should commend itself to the approval of those who are reasonable men and intelligent masons; and we have chosen this method of responding to the appeals of those Grand Chapters that disclaim the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and especially to the very respectable and worthy M. E. Grand Chapter of the State of Virginia, which, after various allegations against the General Grand Chapter, uses the following language:

"The recent proceedings of that Body go far, in our opinion, to produce alarm in the minds of the strongest advocates of its existence; striking as it does to what we were taught to be of the most importance—uniformity of work and language. The work, we are informed, was changed, and innovation made upon the ancient landmarks of the Royal Arch degree; and their printed proceedings proclaim, that uniformity of language is not attainable, or deemed necessary; then, if we understand them rightly, we raise our solemn voice and protest, for and in behalf of Royal Arch Masonry, against the right of that, or any other body of masons, to remove the landmarks * of any degree, or innovate upon the body of masonry; and we most earnestly ask our sister Grand Chapters to inquire into, and scrutinize most closely the acts of their representatives to that body at its recent session."

This, then, is our response to the appeals of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, and all other Bodies sympathizing with them. We do examine with care and scrutinize the proceedings of that Body, and suffer their acts to speak for them, through this report, to all the subordinates of this jurisdiction. And we would now most respectfully ask those Bodies who thus appealed to us, if it is not a reasonable request that they, in turn, would re-consider their

*See Note marked A.

position and the strong expressions of hostility to the General Grand Chapter; and even to waive their objections so far as to enroll themselves with their sister Grand Chapters throughout the Union, in the effort to sustain and perfect the agency of that Body. Satisfied as we are of the importance and utility of that Body, after all that has been said against it, we ask their co-operation in giving to it a fair trial in its sphere of usefulness, and let it have the benefit of the counsel and co-operation of every Grand Chapter of the Union.

We see in these late proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, complaints against the Grand Chapter of Florida, which, like itself, is in hostility to the General Grand Chapter. We respectfully ask, what tribunal could so well adjust the matters in controversy between them as this Body they now oppose, if they would but recognize her jurisdiction, and submit their differences to its adjudication? We would not address those Bodies in the language of reproof or severity; but express an honest desire to see them, in concert with the great body of our Companions, united in sustaining the interests of this department of masonry, in what we conceive to be the best mode of administering its affairs. We would even address them in the language once used by Moses to his father-in-law, who had counselled him wisely in regard to the administration of the affairs of Israel, but was about to depart to his own country, and leave them to the perils of their pilgrimage in the wilderness. The language of the great Lawgiver was, "Come and go with us, and we will do thee good, for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel. And it shall be that whatever good the Lord doeth unto us the same will we do to thee, and thou shalt be unto us in the place of eyes."

We have seen and valued the masonic skill and zeal of our Companions in Virginia too highly to be willing to go forward in the rebuilding of the Temple without their cheerful and cordial co-operation in its highest legislative Councils. We desire to see them face to face, and to have the benefit of their eyes, in the fullest assurance that they are friendly and fraternal eyes, and not those of distrust and disaffection. When the next session shall occur in Kentucky, may we not confidently hope that Virginia will send forth her "Dove," or some other herald of Union, who can equally well bear the Olive Leaf, to greet with fraternal salutations the Companions of our Masonic Union, and inscribe on the banners of the General Grand Chapter, "Free Masonry and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

In the reports of the several Grand Chapters received by us, while some of them are less full than we could desire, there is sufficient to show that in general they are in the earlier stages of a healthful and vigorous progress, and a great degree of harmony and hopefulness pervades this department of masonry. Several of the Grand Chapters have but recently re-organized, and have just commenced operations since the long night of inaction which succeeded the anti-masonic tornado. Of these, the Grand Chapter of Vermont,

re-organized in July, 1849, uses the following language as a part of the address of M. E. Grand High Priest NATHAN B. HASWELL:

"We have seen the bow of promise in the heavens, with its beauty and grandeur spanning the universe in a Grand Omnific Royal Arch, as a sign and token that the floods should no more deluge the earth. So may our Green Mountain Masonic Arch, resting upon the same eternal base, united and connected as it is with sister Arches, again rise in its pristine glory with renewed hope and promise of usefulness, giving a sign and token to our Companions abroad that the tempest and storm that raged so bitterly in Vermont against the Masonic Institution, *having spent its force, is now hushed.* If we find, on searching the ruins the storm occasioned, some of our arches fallen for the want of proper key-stones, be it our duty, in removing the rubbish, to preserve all that may be useful, and, with better materials, may we build the Royal Arch Chapter of Vermont."

The report of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Vermont is a very able document, and discusses the question of the Royal and Select Masters' degrees with much talent and research.

The Grand Chapter of Wisconsin was organized in February, 1850, and commences, as we trust, a prosperous career in that new State. Its proceedings at organization, and a subsequent communication in August, give evidence of masonic ability and zeal in raising the Royal Arch, which we cordially welcome to the household of the mystic tie.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Indiana has furnished an able and extended report of the Committee of Correspondence, chiefly composed of extracts from the Proceedings of other Bodies in correspondence with them; and we rejoice in the progress of Royal Arch Masonry in that young and rising State.

Missouri sends us her Constitution as revised in 1844, and displays a true regard for the honor and progress of masonry, and of masonic zeal for the advancement of education in that State. At the communication in 1850, a resolution was submitted approving of the establishment of a Masonic College at Lexington, and proposing the endowment of the Preparatory Department by the Grand Chapter, at an annual expense of fifteen hundred dollars. It was also proposed to form a joint stock company to build a Grand Masonic Hall in the city of St. Louis.

From Mississippi, we have the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter for 1850 and January, 1851. In these we find evidence of a vigorous and healthful progress in Royal Arch Masonry and in the craft generally; and there, too, the zeal for education is a commanding feature of the reports. But perhaps the most remarkable and interesting feature of the Grand Chapter's proceedings is the able address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, CHARLES SCOTT, delivered on the occasion of his installation. The main design of the address is to show that the mysteries of Freemasonry are intimately connected with the wonderful plan of Redemption, and that this alliance demonstrates that the principles of the Order constitute a harmonious and symmetrical system. We would gladly appropriate a large portion of this address, could we do so without extending our report beyond reasonable limits.

We here close our review of the correspondence of our sister Grand Chapters, though we love to linger around the altar and the temple where such delightful truths are uttered by the priesthood chosen to preside in the deliberations of our exalted and excellent Companions. We rejoice in the high moral tone that so extensively pervades the public addresses and reports of these corresponding Bodies. It is delightful to see that those called to fill responsible stations in our Chapters so fully realize the importance of the trusts committed to them and so ably fulfill their duties. We need not devote much time in the discussion of the mooted question whether Freemasonry is *progressive* in its nature and principles, and therefore adapted to harmonize with the spirit of the age. We see, within the compass of the correspondence now before us, that it gives rise to the widest latitude of legitimate discussion and inquiry in regard to all that pertains to its interests and progress. We see it progressing, step by step, with the progress of light and freedom and charity, and even in the face of hostility and bitterness and wrath such as has seldom been arrayed against the principles and practices of rational men. We see it progressing with the progress of the ages, and so far harmonizing with every form of government and system of religion, as to exert a softening and hallowed influence upon human passions and affections wherever its principles are embraced. We find its seminal elements entering into various forms of social organization before the Hebrew race were slaves in Egypt; and when that race had gained their pre-eminence in the promised land, we find it adapted to their highest forms of architectual skill and efficiency, and harmonizing with their most sacred rites and religious institutions; and when Christianity appears, and brings life and immortality to light, Freemasonry welcomes its approach, and adopts the herald of the Messiah, and his bosom companion, the beloved disciple, as her patron saints; and now we see her High Priests the chosen organs of progress, uttering the thrilling truths and the noble aspirations that harmonize with the spirit of the age and the yearnings of the soul. We need not innovate on the essential landmarks of Ancient Masonry to adapt masonry to any age, or to any proper or desirable stage of human progress. We have only to search out and embrace the great truths embodied in its ritual, its symbols and instructions, and mould our hearts and lives by these. Let us fulfill the duties inculcated in their true spirit, and we shall find no occasion to doubt the harmony of masonry with the highest interests and aspirations of the human soul and the progress of the age. Trusting in the intercession of our Great High Priest who has passed into the heavens, let us commit ourselves anew to the work assigned us in this eastern extremity of the Arch which spans our broad Union, and hope to see all our sisters, as polished stones, each filling its appropriate place in the Masonic Arch and in the destiny of our country.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL, }
S. J. TALLMAN, } *Committee.*

A.

NOTE. Since writing this report, the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Florida, at their communication in January, 1851, have come to hand, in which we find a still more decided, and as it seems to us, unwarrantable attack on the General Grand Chapter, by the Committee of Foreign Correspondence. Your committee would not deem it necessary to reply farther to this attack upon that Body, but for strange misapprehensions which seem to prevail with them, as also with our Companions of Virginia. Both of these Bodies assume that the General Grand Chapter has removed ancient landmarks, and innovated upon the body of masonry. The Florida report says:

"They [the General Grand Chapter] have settled that no appeal can be taken from the presiding officer of a Chapter, and that a mason can be made a Royal Arch Mason with one arm." * * * "They have, after mature deliberation, settled *per diem* and *mileage*, if they have not settled their *permanent salaries*."

By reference to the body of this report, it will be seen that the first of these offences charged is not an innovation, but, the resolution itself asserts that, according to *the usages of masonry from time immemorial, on a question of order*, no appeal can of right be taken, &c. It is *only on a question of order*. In reference to the second offence charged, no such decision was made. A resolution to confer the degrees of the Chapter on a mason with one arm, was laid on the table, and a committee raised to report on the question at the next triennial session. Nor did they settle their *dues* or *mileage*. A report of the Committee on Representative Fund is submitted herewith; but that report was not adopted, and no per diem or mileage established.

Your committee do not understand that any innovations on the body of of masonry were recommended or adopted by the General Grand Chapter. An able committee was raised on the Work of the Order, whose report here speaks for itself. One of your committee was a member of that body, and feels assured that what was done in harmonizing the work and language of the Order, into which some diversities had crept, was rather the removal of the innovations and excrescences which had crept into the Order, and restoring the work and language more nearly to its primitive and ancient purity.

The reports of the Committees on the Work and Language show a cautious and conservative spirit; and, as there was a diversity in the several jurisdictions, it would seem that the General Grand Chapter went no farther in this matter than the best interests of the order required.

Without attempting to correct other errors of the Florida report, your committee would only express the hope that the Florida Brethren will review their closing language, and consider whether it is conceived or uttered in accordance with masonic charity and truth.

The hour appointed for the election having arrived, Comp's S. J. TALLMAN, A. HAINES and W. H. MILLS were made a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers; and, having attended to that duty, the committee reported that the following Companions had received a majority of the votes for the offices set against their names respectively, viz:

M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	TIMOTHY CHASE,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON,	*Grand King.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" *Secretary.*

Which report was accepted, and the Grand Officers therein named declared legally elected.

Comp. S. J. TALLMAN, as Grand Marshal, presented Comp. JOHN WILLIAMS, who was duly installed into the chair of Grand High Priest by G. H. P. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS. The other Grand Officers elect were then duly installed by P. G. H. P. FREEMAN BRADFORD.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then made the following appointments:

Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	" "
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	" "
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	" "
"	F. A. HODSDON, Levant,	" "
E.	SCOTT J. TALLMAN, Bath,	" *Marshal.*
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	" *Steward.*
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	" "
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	" "
"	SAMUEL LIBBY, Rockland,	" "
"	SIMEON EVERTON, Bangor,	" *Sentinel.*

All of whom were duly installed by M. E. Comp. Past Grand High Priest FREEMAN BRADFORD.

Formal proclamation was then made that all the Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year were installed in due form.

Comp. BRADFORD, from the committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation to revise the by-laws of this Grand Chapter, made the following report, which was accepted, and the code of by-laws reported was laid upon the table:

The undersigned, a committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation to prepare and revise the by-laws of the Grand Chapter, present the following articles as their report.

All which is respectfully submitted,

F. BRADFORD, } *Committee.*
JAMES PRATT, }

BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF MAINE.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, duly appreciating the advantages of a paramount authority, declares itself under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States; and this Grand Chapter, its officers and members, and the several Chapters under its jurisdiction, and their officers and members, shall conform to the Constitution, Rules and Edicts of said General Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE I.

The officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be—

A Grand High Priest;
Deputy Grand High Priest;
Grand King;
Grand Scribe;
Grand Treasurer; and
Grand Secretary;

Who shall severally be elected by ballot at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter. Also,

Four Grand Chaplains;
A Grand Marshal;
Four Grand Stewards; and
A Grand Sentinel;

Who shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest. The Grand Chapter shall annually, immediately after the choice, assign a time and place for the installation of its officers.

ARTICLE II.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter shall be holden at Portland on Wednesday next preceding the first Thursday of May, at seven o'clock in the afternoon, and the Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand High Priest may

at any time order a Special Convocation, to be holden at such time and place as they may think proper to appoint, giving the members at least ten days' notice.

ARTICLE III.

There shall be elected by ballot, annually, a Committee of Finance, consisting of three members, whose duty shall be to examine and audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and make report thereon at each Annual Convocation. It shall also be their duty to examine all accounts against the Grand Chapter, and, if found correct, approve the same.

ARTICLE IV.

All Grand Officers, at the time of their installation, shall make the following declaration:

"I, ——— ———, solemnly promise, on the honor of a Royal Arch Mason, that, according to the utmost of my knowledge and ability, I will strictly comply with all the laws and regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, the Constitution and laws of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, and with all other ancient masonic usages."

ARTICLE V.

In the absence of the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, it shall be the duty of the highest past officer of these grades to preside; and in the absence of all such past officers, the highest officer of a Subordinate Chapter present shall preside, precedence being given to the oldest Chapter when such officers are of equal grade.

ARTICLE VI.

No person shall be eligible to the office of Grand High Priest for more than two years successively, except, on motion for re-nomination, he receives a unanimous vote therefor, in which case he may be again balloted for.

ARTICLE VII.

The application of every candidate for advancement or exaltation in any Chapter under this jurisdiction shall be made in writing and signed by the applicant; and, when presented to the Chapter, shall be referred to a Committee of Inquiry, and lie over at least one monthly meeting, for the consideration of the members, unless a dispensation be obtained for conferring the degrees at an earlier period from some one of the first four officers of the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE VIII.

Each Chapter within this jurisdiction shall demand and receive for the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason, the sum of twenty-three dollars. The fees for conferring

the degree of Mark Master shall be seven dollars; of Past Master, three dollars; of Most Excellent Master, five dollars; and of Royal Arch Mason, eight dollars.

Article IX.

Every Chapter under this jurisdiction should be represented by their High Priest, King and Scribe in person, or by their respective proxies, at every Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and shall annually, on the first day of April, make duplicate returns of the names of their officers and members, and of the candidates by them admitted to any degrees in their gift, (one of which returns shall be held by the Grand Treasurer, and the other by the Grand Secretary,) and, on or before the day of the Annual Convocation, shall pay their dues to the Grand Treasurer.

Article X.

The several Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall pay for the support thereof, to the Grand Treasurer, annually, the sum of nine dollars, and also the sum of two dollars for every candidate who shall receive the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason conferred therein; and in proportion for each of said degrees, and on payment of said fees, each Chapter shall be entitled to receive one diploma for each candidate so exalted.

Article XI.

No officer of a Subordinate Chapter, or his proxy, shall be entitled to a vote in this Grand Chapter, or to take any part in the deliberations thereof, as representative of said Subordinate Chapter, until all past dues of the same shall be paid to this Grand Chapter.

Article XII.

No candidate residing in any town where a Chapter is holden, shall receive the degrees in any other Chapter within this jurisdiction, without a recommendation from nine members of the Chapter where said candidate resides, of whom the High Priest, King and Scribe shall be three.

Article XIII.

No candidate whose application may have been rejected in any Chapter under this jurisdiction, shall be exalted in any Chapter other than that to which he first applied, without a recommendation from nine members of said Chapter, of whom the High Priest, King and Scribe shall be three; and it shall be the duty of every Chapter under this jurisdiction, to communicate all rejections of candidates to the several Chapters in this State, as well as to the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE XIV.

The High Priest, King and Scribe of any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, when not able to attend the Convocation, may appoint their proxies by a commission under their hands, which commission shall not extend beyond the next Convocation succeeding the date thereof. Permanent Members of the Grand Chapter may be represented by proxy, who shall be entitled to sit in the Grand Chapter and vote therein as members, but shall have no rank by virtue of their commissions; and any member of the Grand Chapter who is also a proxy for an absent member, shall have two votes, one in his own right and one as proxy. Every proxy shall be a member of some Chapter under this jurisdiction, and no Companion shall be proxy for more than one absent member.

ARTICLE XV.

It shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe, severally to improve themselves in the sublime arts and work of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason, and to make themselves masters of the several masonic lectures and ancient charges; whose right and duty it shall be, as often as opportunity presents, to visit and preside in the several Chapters in this State, and give such lectures and instructions as will tend to a proper and uniform mode of working; always adhering to the ancient landmarks of the order. It shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest or presiding officer, at every Convocation of the Grand Chapter, to give, or cause to be given, the Mark and Royal Arch lectures.

ARTICLE XVI.

The Grand Treasurer shall have the care and management of all the property and funds of the Grand Chapter, under the direction of the Board of Trustees. He shall receive all moneys belonging to the Grand Chapter; he shall pay all bills passed and approved by the Committee of Finance, and all sums ordered to be paid by the Trustees of the Charity Fund; and shall have in his care all the regalia of the Grand Chapter not entrusted to the Grand Stewards; all charters, records, seals and regalia returned to the Grand Chapter. He shall render an annual account of all moneys by him received and paid, with a schedule of all the property and funds of the Grand Chapter, to the Trustees; and shall deliver to his successor in office all the funds and other property of the Grand Chapter entrusted to him, taking duplicate receipts therefor, one of which he shall deposit with the Recording Grand Secretary.

ARTICLE XVII.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to take charge of the Archives and keep fair records of all the transactions of the Grand Chapter; he shall also, at the close of each Grand Convocation, collect and arrange their proceedings,

cause them to be printed and transmitted to the several Chapters in this State and elsewhere as the Grand Chapter shall order; and for the performance of this service, he shall receive such compensation as the Grand Chapter shall direct. For each charter to a Subordinate Chapter he shall be entitled to a fee of five dollars, to be paid from the funds of this Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Each Chapter under this jurisdiction shall have a seal, a description of which seal and the device thereon shall be transmitted to and recorded in the books of this Grand Chapter by the Grand Secretary.

ARTICLE XIX.

Every Chapter under this jurisdiction shall elect its officers annually, and make returns as prescribed in Article IX of these by-laws; and any Chapter which refuses or neglects to make returns for the space of three years shall forfeit its charter, unless, upon opportunity being granted by the Grand Chapter, a reasonable excuse for such neglect is given. Every charter, when declared forfeited, shall be returned to the Grand Treasurer, with the records, by-laws, seal, regalia, funds and other property of the Chapter of every description; and all members of a Chapter who shall refuse to make such surrender, or shall vote to divide the funds among themselves, or shall appropriate them in any other way than herein designated, shall be liable to expulsion.

ARTICLE XX.

Alterations and additions may be made to these by-laws at the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, provided there shall be present representatives from a majority of all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, and two-thirds of the votes given shall concur therein.

The Grand Chapter then adjourned, to meet at nine o'clock A. M. Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, June 25, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, M. E. Grand High Priest WILLIAMS in the Chair.

Comp. BRADFORD, from the Finance Committee, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee of Finance have attended to the duty assigned them, and make the following report:

There is in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, subject to expenses hereafter named, the sum of $314.31; which sum consists of the last year's balance of $162.26 and the dues from Subordinate Chapters for the last year, and the further sum of $7.68 interest which has accrued from a temporary loan made by your Grand Treasurer of a part of the balance that has remained in his hands.

The expenses of the Grand Chapter for the last year amount to the sum of $155.47, leaving a balance in his hands of $159.56. The committee would recommend that there be placed under the direction of the Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund the sum of $100.

The committee append to this report the account current of the Grand Treasurer for the past year.

All which is respectfully submitted,

F. BRADFORD,
C. B. SMITH, } *Committee.*
L. BACON,

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

In account with OLIVER GERRISH, *Grand Treasurer.*

Cr.

By Balance of Account,	$162.26
" Cash received of Subordinate Chapters,	144.85
" " " for Interest,	7.68
	$314.79

Dr.

To Cash paid Grand Secretary for services, expense attending Convocation at Bangor, stationery and postage,	$35.17	
" " Grand Treasurer, services, expense attending Convocation, and postage,	20.96	
" " Sentinels, for 1850 and 1851,	8.00	
" " for printing Proceedings and advertising,	36.77	
" " " a Jewel, and repairing the Banner Case,	4.68	
" " " Insurance,	1.65	
" " " 50 Diplomas,	25.00	
" " " Valise,	3.00	
" " Rev. C. Pearl, Chairman of Committee of Foreign Correspondence,	20.00	
" " to the Charity Fund,	100.00	
" Balance to new account,	59.56	
		$314.79

Bangor, June 25, 1851. OLIVER GERRISH, *Grand Treasurer.*

Comp. GERRISH, from the Committee on Returns of Subordinates, presented the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned, and find returns have been received from all the Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, except New Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter, which has also failed to make returns for the year 1849.

The following table will exhibit the number of members returned, exaltations, the number that have received the Royal and Select degrees, and the amount received from each Chapter, viz:

	Members.	Exaltations.	Royal and Select Masters.	Dues.
Mount Vernon,	129	8	0	$25.00
Montgomery,	40	4	0 1850 & '51,	30.00
New Jerusalem,				
Jerusalem,	37	6	0	21.26
Mount Moriah,	43	9	2	29.20
Corinthian,	26	5	0	19.00
King Solomon's	22	7	0	20.39
	297	39	2	$144.85

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVER GERRISH, } *Committee.*
S. LIBBY,

On motion of Comp. TRUE, the new Code of By-Laws was taken up, and, after free discussion, was adopted. The amended Rules and Regulations for the management of the Charity Fund were also adopted.

Comp. PEARL presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, it is expedient for the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States to establish a Representative Fund.

Comp. COVELL presented the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to cause to be printed the proceedings of this convocation, together with a correct list of the Officers and Permanent Members of this Grand Chapter; and that one copy of the same be furnished to each Officer and Permanent Member of this Grand Chapter, and one copy to each officer and member of the several Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to cause to be printed and bound one hundred copies of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, with a list of its officers; the By-Laws of this Grand Chapter, with its Rules of Order, Act of Incorporation and the Regulations for the management of the Charity Fund; and to furnish one copy to each officer and member of this Grand Chapter, and three copies for each Subordinate Chapter.

Resolved, That each Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine ascertain the names and residence of all known Royal Arch Masons within their several jurisdictions that are not members of some legally constituted Royal Arch Chapter, and that they make return thereof to the next Annual Communication of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

On motion of Grand Secretary HAINES, Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH, FREEMAN BRADFORD and LORY BACON were chosen a Committee on Finance.

On motion of Comp. COVELL, it was

Voted, To pay Comp. CYRIL PEARL the sum of twenty dollars, for his services as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appointed Comp's C. B. SMITH and FREEMAN BRADFORD a committee to exemplify the work and lectures.

The Grand Chapter adjourned, to meet at 2:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY, June 25, 2:30 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, M. E. Grand High Priest WILLIAMS in the Chair.

After the Work and Lectures had been exemplified by the committee previously appointed for that purpose, the Grand Chapter closed in ancient form.

ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

OFFICERS

OF THE

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

INSTALLED JUNE 24, A. L. 5851.

M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS, Bangor,	Grand High Priest.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE, Belfast,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	Grand King.
"	HENRY H. BOODY, Portland,	" Scribe.
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, Portland,	" Secretary.
"	SCOTT J. TALLMAN, Bath,	" Marshal.
Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	" Chaplain.
"	CYRIL PEABL, Baldwin,	" "
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	" "
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	" "
"	F. A. HODSDON, Levant,	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	" Steward.
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	" "
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	" "
"	SAMUEL LIBBY, Rockland,	" "
"	SIMEON EVERTON, Bangor,	" Sentinel.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M. E.	CHARLES FOX,	P. G. H. P.
"	ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Brunswick,	"
"	NATHANIEL COFFIN, Illinois,	"
"	JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	"
"	WILLIAM SWAN, Portland,	"
"	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	"
"	DAVID BURBANK,	"
"	JAMES C. CHURCHILL, Portland,	"
"	FREEMAN BRADFORD, Portland,	"
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Portland,	P. D. G H. P.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, Augusta,	"

M. E.	Amos Nourse, Bath,	P. D. G. H. P.
"	Joseph Chandler,	"
"	Joseph M. Gerrish, Portland,	"
"	Charles Chase, Baltimore,	"
"	Thomas S. Bowles, Bath,	"
"	Lawr. Sprague, U. S. A.,	P. G. K.
"	Peleg Sprague, Boston,	"
"	Horace Seaver, Boston,	"
"	Samuel K. Gilman, Hallowell,	"
"	William D. Williamson,	"
"	Jesse Robinson, Hallowell,	"
"	Seth Bird, Portland,	"
"	John P. Boyd, Portland,	"
"	Erastus Foote,	P. G. S.
"	Charles B. Smith,	"
"	Silas Stearns,	"
"	John H. Sheppard, Boston,	"
"	Isaac Gage,	"
"	Oliver B. Dorrance,	"
"	Zina Hyde, Bath,	"
"	Nelson Racklyft, Portland,	"

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER—Portland.

M. E.	William Kimball, ...	High Priest.
E.	William Allen, ...	King.
"	Joseph Smith, ...	Scribe.
Comp.	Oliver Gerrish, ...	Treasurer.
"	Seth Bird, ...	Secretary.
"	Franklin Fox, ...	Capt. of Host.
"	John F. Purinton, ...	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Richard W. Kennard, ...	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Charles Fobes, ...	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Henry C. Lovell, ...	M. of 2d Vail.
"	John Russell, Jr., ...	M. of 1st Vail.
"	John Dain, ...	Steward.
"	Thomas J. Sanborn, ...	"
"	Isaac Davis, ...	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 8.

Regular Communication—Third Monday each month.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER—BANGOR.

M. E.	WILLIAM H. MILLS,	High Priest.
E.	JABEZ TRUE,	King.
"	E. G. RAWSON,	Scribe.
Comp.	ISAAC W. PATTEN,	Treasurer.
"	SILAS ALDEN,	Secretary.
"	BENJAMIN S. DEAN,	Capt. of Host.
"	JONATHAN BURBANK,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	S. F. HERSEY,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	TIMOTHY H. MORSE,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	ALDEN HARLOW,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	JOHN J. BELL,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	NEWELL PAGE,	Steward.
"	JOSEPH LEVETT,	"
"	SIMEON EVERTON,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 9.

Regular Communication—Thursday on or preceding full moon.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER—AUGUSTA.

M. E.	STEPHEN WEBBER,	High Priest.
E.	B. A. G. FULLER,	King.
"	STEPHEN LORD,	Scribe.
Comp.	JOHN DORR,	Treasurer.
"	LORY BACON,	Secretary.
"	THOMAS CLARK,	Capt. of Host.
"	ALVIN T. PERKINS,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	B. F. CHANDLER,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	ERI WILLS,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	LEONARD GOSS,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	THOMAS NYE,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	PETER VIGOUREAUX,	Steward.
"	JAMES H. PATTERSON,	"
"	JACOB H. ARNOLD,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 6.

Regular Communication—Thursday on or next preceding full moon.

MONTGOMERY CHAPTER—Bath.

M. E.	Scott J. Tallman,	High Priest.
E.	John D. Lincoln,	King.
"	Richard Greenleaf,	Scribe.
Comp.	Davis Hatch,	Treasurer.
"	Ephraim Brown,	Secretary.
"	Samuel S. Wing,	Capt. of Host.
"	Percival Clementine,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Jere. Ellsworth,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Abner B. Thompson,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Robert Bowker,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Abiezer Mathews,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	John Young,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 4.

Regular Communication—Wednesday on or preceding full moon.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER—Belfast.

M. E.	Ansel Lennan,	High Priest.
E.	Timothy Chase,	King.
"	Josiah Farrow,	Scribe.
Comp.	James P. Furber,	Treasurer.
"	Oshea Page,	Secretary.
"	H. G. O. Washburn,	Capt. of Host.
"	H. K. Kimball,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Benjamin Kelly,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	W. O. Poor,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Joseph Dennett, Jr.,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	L. B. Wetherbee,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Joseph S. Noyes,	Steward.
"	Wm. Holt,	"
"	Ezekiel Burgess,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 5.

Regular Communication—Thursday on or before the full of the moon.

NEW JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Wiscasset.

No returns received.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER—ROCKLAND.

M. E.	D. M. MITCHELL,	High Priest.
E.	SAMUEL LIBBY,	King.
"	CHARLES HOLMES,	Scribe.
Comp.	LARKIN SNOW,	Treasurer.
"	E. H. COCHRAIN,	Secretary.
"	S. B. DOCKHAM,	Capt. of Host.
"	A. P. HIGGINS,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	O. P. MITCHELL,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	S. G. DENNIS,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	W. L. PITTS,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	JAMES KALER,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	M. TOLMAN,	Steward.
"	STEPHEN BARROWS,	"
"	M. E. THURLO,	Sentinel.

Number exalted during the past year, 7.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1852.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine assembled at Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on Wednesday, the fifth day of May, A. L. 5852, A. D. 1852, at seven o'clock P. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS,	Grand High Priest.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE,	Dep. G. H. Priest.
"	A. B. THOMPSON,	Grand King.
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" Secretary.
"	JOHN RUSSELL, JR.,	" Marshal, *pro tem.*
Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	" Chaplain.
"	CYRIL PEARL,	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL,	" Steward.
"	LORY BACON,	" "
"	CHARLES FOBES,	" M. of 3d V.
"	BENJ. MUDGETT,	" M. of 2d V.
"	JOHN J. BELL,	" M. of 1st V.
"	T. J. SANBORN,	" R. A. Captain.
"	JOSEPH SMITH,	" Prin. Sojourner.
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	" Sentinel.

With a large number of Permanent Members, and a full representation from the several Chapters within this jurisdiction.

At the request of M. E. Grand High Priest JOHN WILLIAMS, M. E. Comp. R. P. DUNLAP, General Grand High Priest of the

General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, took the Chair and opened the Grand Chapter in ample form.

An appropriate prayer was offered by M. E. Comp. STEPHEN LOVELL, Deputy General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

On motion of Comp. PEARL, it was

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the records of the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, the same having been published and placed in the hands of the members.

On motion of M. E. P. G. H. Priest HUMPHREYS, it was

Voted, To admit all Royal Arch Masons in regular standing who may wish to be present and witness the proceedings of this Grand Chapter.

On motion of M. E. P. G. H. Priest BRADFORD, it was

Voted, To raise the following Standing Committees, to wit:

A Committee on Credentials.
A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.
A Committee on Dispensations and Charters.
A Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Chapters.
A Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.
A Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the Standing Committees as follows, who were duly approved by the Grand Chapter:

On Credentials.—E. Comp's FREEMAN BRADFORD, H. G. O. WASHBURN, JABEZ TRUE.

On Grievances and Appeals.—E. Comp's JOSEPH SMITH, JABEZ TRUE, O. A. MERRILL.

On Warrants and Dispensations.—E. Comp's C. B. SMITH, TIMOTHY CHASE, JABEZ TRUE.

On Returns of Subordinates.—E. Comp's OLIVER GERRISH, A. B. THOMPSON, R. W. KENNARD.

On Doings of Grand Officers.—E. Comp's E. G. RAWSON, LORY BACON, E. A. CHADWICK.

On Foreign Correspondence.—E. Comp's CYRIL PEARL, J. C. STEVENS, JOSEPH COVELL.

Grand Secretary HAINES presented the following report upon the state of the Charity Fund, which was accepted and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Chapter:

Agreeably to Article 5 of the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, I herewith present a statement of said Fund:

The whole amount of said Fund is $447.78, consisting of—

Three shares of the Capital Stock of Casco Bank,.....	$300.00
One share of the Capital Stock of Canal Bank,.....	100.00
And in hands of Grand Treasurer,.....	47.78
	$447.78

Amount of income from Charity Fund last year was $19.36.

ALLEN HAINES,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

The Grand Secretary also presented a petition from Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter, praying for a dispensation to hold its sessions in rotation in the cities of Gardiner, Hallowell and Augusta, which was received and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants.

Comp. PEARL, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following report, which was read, accepted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of this convocation:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Another year of masonic labors has closed, and its records are a part of its permanent history. These records are now under the inspection of our Great High Priest, who has passed into the Holy of Holies, and who will scrutinize, not merely what human hands have recorded on perishable materials, but will search every heart and deal with every motive which has regulated our masonic conduct. In view of the frailties of human nature, and the vices and obliquities of our past lives, we have great cause of thankfulness that "we have not a High Priest who cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities," but one who was "made perfect through suffering," and who triumphed over every temptation, and knows how to succor those who are tempted, and delights in this mission. The records of this year's labor, so far as published in our correspondence, afford much occasion for grateful acknowledgment of divine favor, and ample motives for a new consecration of ourselves to the appropriate work we have voluntarily assumed. In seeking admission to the Masonic Fraternity, we have deliberately pledged our truth and our sacred honor to the noble principles which are recognized in the Constitution and ancient landmarks of our Order. In pursuing our inquiries and masonic labors, we have at every step increased the weight of our responsibilities. In our assembling here to-day, we renew our covenant obligations as we review

the past, and gird ourselves for future conflicts with whatever powers of evil obstruct the free course of Reason, Truth and Love. We, by this social, festive gathering to cheer each other onward in our chosen labors, and consecrate our standard bearers for another year, declare that we do heartily believe that Freemasonry has yet a blessed mission, an altar and a priesthood, in our world. In surveying the broad field of masonic labor in our land, we are impressed with the magnitude of the work before us, and delighted with the spirit and enthusiasm of the marshaling hosts that are enlisting under our time-honored banners. The great increase of workmen in the primary and preliminary labors of Ancient Craft Masonry is rapidly swelling the ranks of master builders, who now aspire to the honor of sharing the labors and rewards which the higher departments of our Order disclose. Increasing thousands in our land now desire to try their skill in rearing the Royal Arch on which shall repose the new temple of enlightened and exalted humanity. Be it our privilege to bid them share in the good work of rearing high the walls, as well as sinking deep the firm foundations, of the temples of truth and righteousness, which shall respond to the calls of suffering humanity, radiate the light of life, and spread far and wide the divine influences of Christian civilization, of fraternal sympathy and love.

The correspondence of this year is full of interest in this department of masonry. We are favored with communications from the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Connecticut, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, Missouri, Virginia and Florida.

The committee recommend that the Grand Secretary send two copies of our Proceedings of this year to each Grand Chapter, by different mails, with the request that the same be done by each Grand Chapter.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS' DEGREES.

In our last report, we were led to notice the diversity in practice in reference to the degrees of Royal and Select Master, and the conflicting claims of jurisdiction over them, in the different States. The questions on this subject are not yet definitely settled, and there is some danger that they will occasion serious embarrassment. It has evidently become necessary for Royal Arch Masons to be informed on these questions, and be prepared to take a firm and stable position on the ground of right, to withstand every unjust and unreasonable claim, and avoid all mischievous entanglements in controversies which may arise. This subject has become the more important in view of the course of certain masonic publications in reference to the conflicting claims of bodies assuming masonic jurisdiction under the title of Grand Consistories, or Supreme Councils of the thirty-third degree. Your committee would simply refer to the articles on this controversy in the *Masonic Sentinel* of New York, and the *Free Mason's Magazine* of Boston. The personalities

and uncharitableness of some of these articles are highly offensive to good taste, as well as at war with the spirit and first principles of masonry.

In reference to the Royal and Select Master's degrees, the most instructive discussion your committee have seen they here insert, from the *Southern and Western Masonic Miscellany*, published in Charleston, S. C., by E. Comp. A. G. Mackey, and copied in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, 1851:

"There are, at present, three authorities under whom these degrees are conferred in this country; first, under the Grand Councils, as in a majority of the States; secondly, under Grand Chapters, as in Virginia; and thirdly, under the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree, as in South Carolina. We propose in the present article to show that these degrees belong of right only to the last authority, and that any control that has been exercised over them by the other two, is illegitimate and unwarranted, and its very existence owing only to the lapse of time during which the Supreme Council has, through its supineness, neglected to assert its legal claims.

"The history of these degrees will show that this is the case. The degrees themselves, in their ritual, will prove from what body they have emanated, for their obligations, as originally conferred, provided for a pledge of submission to the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree, although we are obliged to confess that, as a part of the system of spoliation which took these degrees out of their proper control, that point of the obligation is now omitted, except when the degrees are conferred by an inspector of the thirty-third.

"The question whether these degrees shall be conferred under the direction of the State Grand Councils, or Grand Chapters, is not a new one. For as the question simply terminates in a contest for the spoils of war, like all such contests, the parties had no sooner taken the prey from the rightful owner, than they began to contend among each other for what, in truth, belonged to neither.

"In the year 1826, the Grand Chapter of Maryland addressed a circular to different Grand Chapters of the United States, suggesting 'the propriety of those Bodies assuming jurisdiction and authority over the degrees of Royal and Select Masters.' The very word 'assuming,' used by the Grand Chapter, was a tacit acknowledgment that the powers it claimed were intended to be an innovation and assumption of something not before possessed. The proposition was referred, in South Carolina, to an able committee of the Grand Chapter of that State, who made a report on the 26th of February, 1827, which contains so much information on the subject of our inquiry, that we do not hesitate to publish in full those parts of it which relate to the origin of these degrees.

"'The committee appointed at the last stated convocation of the Grand Chapter in May last, to take into consideration and report upon the propriety and expediency of the different Grand Royal Arch Chapters of the several States respectively, assuming jurisdiction and authority over the Royal and Select Master's degrees, and to which committee were referred the proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maryland upon the subject, respectfully ask leave to state, that they have made extensive and careful investigation into the subject referred to their consideration, and they offer the following statement as the result of their inquiries:

"'They have ascertained that the respectable Brothers and Companions, Dr. F. Dalcho, Dr. Isaac Auld, Dr. James Moultrie, Sr., and Moses C. Levy, Esq., with many others, received these degrees in Charleston, in February, 1783, in the Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection, then established in the city (Charleston), of which Body three of the above named Brothers are still living, venerable for their years and warm attachment to the glorious cause of Freemasonry, and highly respected and esteemed in the community where

they have so long and so honorably sojourned, and they are still members of the same Sublime Body.

"'Your committee have further ascertained, that the original establishment of the Grand Council of the Princes of Jerusalem in this city was on the 20th of February, 1778, by the Illustrious Brothers Joseph Myers, Barend M. Spitser, and A. Frost, Deputy Inspectors General from Frederick II, King of Prussia. Bro. Myers then deposited in the Grand Archives of the said Grand Council of the Grand Princes of Jerusalem, certified copies of the said degrees from Berlin in Prussia, which were to be under the future guidance and fostering protection of the above named presiding body. The above named three respectable brethren and Companions are and have steadily been members and officers of the said body of Princes of Jerusalem; their evidence, therefore, must be conclusive upon these points.

"'Your committee are informed that the above named Bro. Myers, previously to his return to Europe, while pursuing his mercantile concerns, resided some time in several of the cities of Virginia and Maryland, where he communicated a knowledge of the degrees in question.

"'The committee further state, that the Grand Officers and the Sublime Council of Inspectors General have been, since 1783, steadily in the habit of conferring the degrees in question, under their authority in the Southern and Western States. Your committee have seen and perused the first copy of these degrees that ever came to America, and old copies of charters that have been returned by Councils in the States where Grand Councils have been formed, and the Bodies surrendering have taken other charters for conferring the degrees, from such Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters thus formed.

"'From these statements, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter will readily perceive that these degrees have been under a regular and independent masonic protection and authority for more than forty-six years, and that they were thus circumstanced in the United States of America, at a period antecedent to the establishment of Grand Royal Arch Chapters, or even of Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, in any part of the world.

"'For these, as well as for other reasons, which might be given if time would permit, and also with a view to avoid all collision with contemporary masonic jurisdiction, regularly established, and much longer in existence than ours, your committee, with all due deference and respect, would venture to recommend the following resolutions for the consideration of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter.'

"The first and third of the resolutions relate to the practice of trading these degrees by unauthorized persons, and to the discharge of the committee: the second only is important to our subject, and is in these words:

"'*Resolved*, For the statement and reasons assigned in the foregoing report, that, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, it is improper and inexpedient to assume a jurisdiction over the said degrees, and thus to interfere with the rights and privileges of our Brethren and Companions in another and higher order of Freemasonry.'

"The report and resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the same subject being again brought before the Grand Chapter in February of the present year, a substantially similar report was made, and the decision was re-affirmed.

"There is abundant evidence in the archives of the Supreme Council that the historical facts detailed in the preceding reports are correct. Thirty years ago, a Council of Royal and Select Masters was unknown. The degrees were entirely conferred by Inspectors General, whose authority for so doing was derived from a patent granted by the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree. There are many old masons now living in the Southern and Western States, as well as the Northern States, who received them from Bro. Barker, the accredited agent of the Supreme Grand Council, whose seat of government is at Charleston; and, indeed, we think we may safely say, as the report we have recited clearly implies, that the subordinate Councils now existing in the South and

West were originally organized by Royal and Select Masons who had received their degrees from and owed allegiance to the Supreme Council at Charleston.

"Much documentary evidence might be cited to prove that the original possession and jurisdiction of these degrees were wholly vested in the Supreme Council.

"There is a memorandum in the archives of that Body, dated 'Supreme Council Chamber, Charleston, S. C., 10th February, 1829,' and signed by Moses Holbrook, M. D., at that time Grand Commander, which states the mode in which the degrees were introduced into this country by Bro. Myers, almost in the very words of the report we have already cited, and mentions the deposit by him of a certified copy of them in the archives.

"In another document on the same page, dated March 15, 1830, and signed also by Moses Holbrook, M. D., Grand Commander, we find the following directions, intended, of course, from the book in which they are written, for the government of members of the thirty-third degree: 'Agreeably to the obligations of the same and the Grand Constitutions governing these degrees, viz: Royal and Select Masters of twenty-seven, it is correct and lawful to give them either to Sublime Masons who have arrived at Knight of the Ninth Arch (thirteenth degree), or to Companions of the Third Arch—that is, Royal Arch Masons.'

"Bro. F. Dalcho, in the appendix to his 'Orations delivered in the Sublime Grand Lodge,' in the year 1807, says: 'Besides those degrees which are in regular succession, most of the Inspectors are in possession of a number of detailed degrees given in different parts of the world, and which they generally communicate, free of expense, to those brethren who are high enough to understand them.' Among these detailed degrees, he enumerates that of the Select Masons of twenty-seven, or the Select Master.

"Other testimony might easily be adduced, at the risk, however, of fatiguing the reader; but we think that the facts presented in the report of the committee of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina are sufficient to satisfy any candid mind that these degrees were originally attached to the Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, of which the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree is the legitimate head. A few words may therefore be necessary to the history of this body, that the whole subject may be fully and completely understood by our readers.

"The Scotch Rite of Masonry consists of thirty-three degrees, commencing at the Entered Apprentice and terminating at that of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, the possessors of which are limited by the old Constitution of the Order to nine in every country except the United States, where there are eighteen. These Grand Inspectors compose the Supreme Council, which constitute the great masonic tribunal of the Rite, as Grand Lodges do of the York Rite. At the middle of the eighteenth century, Frederick II, King of Prussia, was at its head. The Rite was then consisting of thirty-two degrees, the ultimate one being that of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, he himself executing, as sole Inspector General and Commander, the powers which are now divided between the members of the thirty-third degree. Under the authority of this monarch, a Grand Consistory of Princes of the Royal Secret was convened at Paris in 1761, Chaillon de Joinville presiding, as the King of Prussia's deputy, when Bro. Stephen Morin was appointed Inspector General over all Lodges, Councils, &c., in the New World; and in the succeeding year a certified copy of the secret constitutions was transmitted to him.* On the 1st of May, 1786, the Grand Constitution of the thirty-third degree, called the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, was finally ratified by Frederick, King of Prussia, and the high powers of

"*Bro. Morin, upon his arrival in St. Domingo, appointed, agreeably to the authority vested in him, Bro. M. M. Hayes as Deputy Inspector General for North America, with power of appointing others. Bro. Hayes accordingly appointed Isaac Da Costa Deputy Inspector General for the State of South Carolina, who, in 1783, established the Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection in Charleston. After the death of Da Costa, Joseph Myers was appointed his successor by Bro. Hayes."

that body were ordered to be conferred on nine brethren in each nation, who were to enjoy all the prerogatives in their own districts that were possessed by his Majesty in his individual capacity. It was at the same time established as an unalterable rule, that there should be but one Sovereign and Supreme Council only for each Kingdom of Europe, two for the United States of America, one for the English and one for the French West India Islands.

"Under the authority and sanction of this Constitution, a Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree was opened at Charleston on the 31st of May, 1801, by Bros. John Mitchell and Frederick Dalcho, and the whole number of the Grand Inspectors General was in the course of the year completed.

"Since that period, the Supreme Council has continued to hold its sessions in Charleston, and to exercise the powers and prerogatives delegated to it by the secret Constitution of the thirty-third degree. An interruption to its active operations occurred during the disastrous period when the dark spirit of anti-masonry was moving like an incubus over our unhappy land; but its constitutional powers were never surrendered, and its authority has been always acknowledged by the possessors of the Sublime and Ineffable degrees. The Supreme Council thus organized claims masonic jurisdiction over all the Southern and Southwestern districts of the United States, as the Supreme tribunal for the Sublime and Ineffable degrees of the Scotch Rite. In deference to the Constitutions of the York Rite practiced in this country, it has waived its rights and privileges so far as they relate to the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, which, long before the establishment of a Supreme Council in this hemisphere, were under the control of a Symbolic Grand Lodge; but this latter body has nothing to do with the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, the control of which is therefore not affected by the concession.

"On the 5th of August, 1813, a similar Supreme Council was, in accordance with the secret Constitutions, duly and lawfully established and constituted at the city of New York by Emanuel De La Motta, as the representative and under the sanction and authority of the Council at Charleston. The masonic jurisdiction of the New York Council is distributed over the Northern, Northwestern and Northeastern parts of the United States, and this, with the Council at Charleston, are the only recognized Councils which exist, or can exist, according to the secret Constitutions, in the United States. So far as relates to the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, which we see originally belonged to these bodies, the Supreme Council for the Southern States has never abandoned its claim to their control, although it has undoubtedly not maintained that claim with due energy. It has organized Councils of Royal and Select Masters in some of the States, as, for instance, in Mississippi and South Carolina, either directly by Inspectors or indirectly through the intervention of its subordinate Councils of Princes of Jerusalem, and it would not now refuse to grant a charter when applied for by those properly qualified to receive it. In fact, the degrees continue to be given by its officers and under its authority, and it is not to be doubted that one-half of the Councils of Royal and Select Masters in the country owe their existence, and with it their primary allegiance, however they may withhold it, to the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree, sitting at Charleston.

"The true character of the case may then be categorically stated in a few sentences:

"1.—The degrees of Royal and Select Master were originally brought to this country by the Inspector General of the Scotch Rite, and deposited by him in the archives and placed under the control of the Princes of Jerusalem at Charleston, whose rights and powers were afterwards merged in the Supreme Council of the thirty-third at Charleston.

"2.—The Inspectors of this Council disseminated these degrees over the country, conferring them on any qualified persons they pleased, but always required a pledge of allegiance to the Supreme Council.

"3.—Charters were granted by the Supreme Council or its officers, for the establishment of Subordinate Councils of Royal and Select Masters, which Subordinate Councils afterwards united in the formation of State Grand Councils, and then threw off their allegiance to the Supreme Council.

"4.—In some of the States the control of the degrees is still retained by the Supreme Council, no Grand Councils having ever been instituted: in others it is claimed by Grand Chapters, and the degrees are conferred before the Royal Arch; while in most of them it is exercised by State Grand Councils."

Such being the history of these degrees, and the original jurisdiction of them, your committee can see no motive to change the course of this Grand Chapter in regard to them, but abundant reason to avoid all entangling alliances with the conflicts and controversies of the Bodies claiming to be the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree, in these Northern States. Your committee trust that the Grand Chapter of Maine, and her increasing subordinates, will adhere to their present course in regard to these degrees, till the General Grand Chapter or some other competent authority can show us a more excellent way.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

In the last annual report, the committee deemed it desirable to give a somewhat extended exposé of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter at its last triennial session in Boston. We find abundant evidence that such an exposition was an acceptable service to the Royal Arch Chapters of Maine, and one which might with profit be imitated by all the Grand Chapters of the Union. Could this be properly done, there is reason to believe that many of the objections urged against that Body by some of the Grand Chapters which are connected with it, as well as those which still refuse to recognize its authority, would be removed. In our last report, we named three Grand Chapters—Virginia, Pennsylvania and Florida—that refused to recognize the authority of the General Grand Chapter; and endeavored to show, by the proceedings of that Body, and by the position of these dissenting Chapters, that the General Grand Chapter had an important mission to fulfill. So fully satisfied are your committee of the correctness of their position, that they venture to repeat the following passage from that report:

"This, then, is our response to the appeals of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, and all other Bodies sympathizing with them. We do examine with care and scrutinize the proceedings of that Body, and suffer their acts to speak for them, through this report, to all the subordinates of this jurisdiction; and we would now most respectfully ask those Bodies who thus appeal to us, if it is not a reasonable request that they, in turn, would re-consider their position and their strong expressions of hostility to the General Grand Chapter, and even to waive their objections so far as to enroll themselves with their sister Grand Chapters throughout the Union in the effort to sustain and perfect the agency of that Body. Satisfied as we are of the importance and utility of that Body, after all that has been said against it, we ask their co-operation in giving to it a fair trial in its sphere of usefulness, and let it have the benefit of the counsel and co-operation of every Grand Chapter of the Union. We see in these late proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Virginia complaints against the Grand Chapter of Florida, which, like itself, is in hostility to the General Grand Chapter. We respectfully ask, what tribunal could so well adjust the matters in controversy between them as this Body they now oppose, if they would but recognize her jurisdiction and submit their differences to her adjudication? We would not address those Bodies in the language of reproof or severity, but express our honest desire to see

them, in concert with the great body of our Companions, united in sustaining the interests of this department of masonry in what we conceive to be the best mode of administering its affairs. We would even address them in the language once used by Moses to his father-in-law, who had consulted him wisely in regard to the administration of the affairs of Israel, but was about to depart to his own country and leave them to the perils of their pilgrimage in the wilderness. The language of the great law-giver was—'Come and go with me, and we will do thee good: for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel. And it shall be that whatever good the Lord doeth unto us, the same will we do unto thee; and thou shalt be unto us in the place of eyes.'"

Your committee rejoice to find that this appeal was not made wholly in vain. The manner in which the Grand Chapter of Florida has responded to it encourages the hope that she will yet rectify her proceedings and become a hearty co-laborer with us in the support of the General Grand Chapter, at least till it shall have had a fair trial. We will allow her to speak freely for herself, whatever seeming impropriety there may be in holding masonic correspondence with her in the attitude she now assumes. Some two pages and a half of the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest to his Chapter is devoted to our last report, as follows:

"In the Report on Foreign Correspondence of Maine, the committee remark:—'The Grand Chapters of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Florida do not sympathize with the General Grand Chapter, although that of Florida is enrolled in its list.' This information is new to us, Companions! We certainly gave no authority for it. When the application of this Grand Chapter for membership was repulsed by the General Grand Chapter, and conditions required to be performed which this Grand Chapter, regarding its own rights and dignity, could not submit to, a resolution was adopted withdrawing the application, with a determination not to renew it again. It has not been renewed. There is, therefore, no authority for our enrollment in the list of the members of the General Grand Chapter.

"The same committee further say:—'We see in these late proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Virginia complaint against the Grand Chapter of Florida, which, like itself, is in hostility to the General Grand Chapter. We respectfully ask, what tribunal could so well adjust the matters in controversy between them as this Body they now oppose, if they would but recognize her jurisdiction and submit their differences to her adjudication?' I would respectfully, in the same spirit of good temper which is manifested in the committee's report, ask if it would not be better for the reputation of that 'tribunal,' as a Grand Conservator, first to settle the great questions of masonic law over which it has legitimate jurisdiction, before it proposes to reconcile small family differences which involve no masonic principles and over which it could not possibly enforce authority? The 'complaint' of Virginia is of a pecuniary character—for dues from a subordinate Chapter once under its jurisdiction—and was caused, doubtlessly, from inadvertence, probably a reprehensible neglect on the part of the subordinate Chapter, and which, I have no question, has been long since settled and explained; but if it has not been attended to, I would admonish our Companions of Magnolia Chapter to settle the difficulty at once, and make satisfactory explanation. It is a very small matter, and should never have been permitted to have occurred as cause of reproach on our Institution, or to be adverted to as a precedent by the advocates of the General Grand Chapter.

"The committee of Maine say:—'Without attempting to correct other errors of the Florida report [January, 1851], your committee would only express the hope that their Florida brethren will review their closing language, and consider whether it is conceived or uttered in accordance with masonic charity and truth.' I have reviewed the 'closing language' of the report, and wish I could say, with a proper regard to 'masonic charity and truth,' that it was

nothing but a flourish of harmless words to round off the *closing* paragraph. I fear the cause of the widows and orphans would rise up against me. But I will say for myself, and on your behalf, Companions, that for anything said or intimated savoring of unkindness or asperity, we disavow and withdraw. We hold in the highest estimation and respect the members of the General Grand Chapter, and would commit no act designedly which would have a tendency to lessen our standing in their estimation as true men and masons, and would do anything consistent with our masonic character to preserve order and harmony with the fraternity.

"As it regards the 'errors' of our report, I think our Companions of Maine will find, by examining some of the reports of Grand Chapters who are members of the General Grand Chapter, that we do not stand alone in our opinions. They say (the committee of Maine) :—'A resolution to confer the degrees of the Chapter on a mason with one arm *was laid on the table.*' Was not that admitting it to be a doubtful question, and giving the Chapters entertaining such opinions the right 'to *confer the degrees of the Chapter on a mason with one arm?*' New York declares that it is 'guilty rather of the sin of omission than of commission.' My teachings of ethics have been, that the 'sin of omission' is as great as 'of commission;' and, masonically, it is greater, because it manifests either ignorance of a duty or want of courage to perform it.

"If our Companions of Maine will review the proceedings of this Grand Chapter with a desire to arrive at truth, they will find that they have done us injustice in charging us with an 'unwarrantable attack on the General Grand Chapter.' We have never attacked the General Grand Chapter. We have but defended ourselves when charged with opening 'another field of discord and confusion,' and of being unworthy of 'membership' with the Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter until recognized by that General Grand Body as having 'been constituted in accordance with correct masonic usage.' I would respectfully ask, where did that General Grand Body obtain the authority to determine what is 'in accordance with correct masonic usage,' and if it ever has shown itself competent so to determine? The heaviest charges that we have ever made against the General Grand Chapter have been extracts from the reports of Grand Chapters acknowledging its jurisdiction, and these only brought forward in defense of our own position. We therefore confidently assert that we have never made an 'unwarrantable attack upon the General Grand Chapter.' It must be remembered that, although the Grand Chapter of Florida is a 'pioneer' in the *South* and a *young* Grand Chapter, it is composed of some of the oldest and most experienced Royal Arch Masons in the United States, whose standing as enlightened masons and upright men would reflect no discredit upon any Grand Chapter in the Union, and who would deeply deplore any event which tended to disturb the harmony and unity of Royal Arch Masonry in this great empire of the Order; and, therefore, I would admonish our Companions of Maine and New York, and all the Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, to review carefully, and without prejudice, the course of conduct of the Grand Chapter of Florida from the day of its organization, and to *mark well* that they do not, by high-minded means, force us into extremities which the whole body of masons should deprecate."

We have suffered the Grand Chapter of Florida to speak thus freely in her own defense, through her highest officer, and we have carefully re-examined her position and defense as presented by him, and, "in the same spirit of good temper" which he says is manifested in our report of last year, the committee would frankly say that, by their own showing, the Grand Chapter of Florida seems to us to occupy an unwarrantable position, and that his defense of it is unsound and untenable, and fitted to bring reproach on the Order they profess to love.

We doubt not their assertion that "the Grand Chapter of Florida, though a

pioneer in the South and a young Grand Chapter, is composed of some of the oldest and most experienced Royal Arch Masons in the United States, whose standing as enlightened masons and upright men would reflect no discredit upon any Grand Chapter in the Union." It is because we respect her masonic skill, and her capacity to fulfill a noble destiny in the sunny South, that her sister in the Northeast is encouraged to speak hard [kind] words to her, though they may seem too personal and officious.

We are pleased with her frankness in saying thus much, through her Grand High Priest: "But I will say for myself, and on your behalf, Companions, that for anything said or intimated savoring of unkindness or asperity, we disavow and withdraw." That is manly and masonic. So are other passages we would love to quote. But there are other expressions we are sorry to see in this address. We are told that, "If our Companions of Maine will review the proceedings of this Grand Chapter with a desire to arrive at truth, *they will find that they have done us injustice in charging us with an unwarrantable attack on the General Grand Chapter.*" * * * "We therefore confidently assert that we have never made an unwarrantable attack upon the General Grand Chapter." They also say: "The heaviest charges that we have ever made against the General Grand Chapter have been extracts from the reports of the Grand Chapters acknowledging its jurisdiction, and these only brought forward in defense of our own position."

We would remind those Companions that, in our view, this course of procedure is very clear evidence that "their own position" is a bad one, and ought to be at once abandoned. And what shall we say of the following passage from their last year's report?

"Your committee observe, from recent masonic publications, that about one-half of the revenue of the General Grand Chapter is expended in the payment of *per diem* and mileage to the members, and that the remainder is appropriated, not for the benefit of Royal Arch Masonry, but of the General Grand Chapter—probably to pay the permanent salaries of the officers and to meet the expenses of another triennial jubilee. Not a dollar has been appropriated for the support of the widow or the education of the orphan. After all the flourish of trumpets about the settlement of vexed questions by the *General Grand Sanhedrim* at Boston, what have they done? They have settled that no appeal can be taken from the presiding officer of a Chapter, and that a mason may be made a mason with one arm. But let us not do the General Grand Chapter injustice—they have done more: they have, after mature consideration, *settled their per diem and mileage, if they have not settled their permanent salaries.* It is true our General Grand Chapter had a glorious festival. They luxuriated on the rich viands of Boston, and drank her ruby wines; but, whilst they feasted and quaffed their mantling cup, did they remember for a moment that the widow and orphan were exposed to the peltings of the pitiless storm?—that they were eating the bread of sorrow and draining the cup of misery to the dregs? Surely the sceptre is about to depart from Judah! Did not the General Grand High Priest, surrounded by his Captains of great estate, see, like Belshazzar, the hand-writing on the wall, '*Mene, mene, tekel, upharsin?*'"

Your committee pointed out some of the gross errors of this paragraph last year, and they now submit to their Companions in Florida, whether here is not an "unwarrantable attack on the General Grand Chapter" utterly un-

worthy of such Royal Arch Masons as compose the Grand Chapter of Florida? Will they not re-consider it? Will they not suffer the better feelings of their nature to prevail, and save them from such expressions? Such reproachful language is entirely out of character—utterly unwarrantable. Look, again, at the following language in their last report:

"But we have been required not only to overlook these serious objections, but to surrender inherent 'sovereign rights,' which would degrade us in our own estimation as men and masons. Will we submit? We answer, we will not. Two years ago, this Grand Chapter, after solemn deliberation, came to this conclusion, and we will adhere to it." * * * "But will all the Grand Chapters cast us off because we will not fall down and worship this dumb idol? Will Virginia, from whom we have derived authority—*bold, untiring and vigilant Virginia!*—will she cast us off as profane? For she occupies the same position as ourselves."

Probably our Companions in Florida had not seen, at the time of publishing this address, the following resolution of the Grand Chapter of Virginia adopted at her session January 23, 1852:

"*Resolved,* That a special committee be appointed to consider the relations which exist between this Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the expediency of uniting with said General Grand Chapter as a constituent member thereof; and that the said committee do report at the next Grand Annual Communication. Committee—Edward P. Hunter, Levi L. Stevenson and James Evans."

We commend this resolution to our Companions in Florida, and would fraternally invite them to go and do likewise. We are the more encouraged to do this because, in another part of the address, they say: "We hold in the highest estimation and respect the members of the General Grand Chapter, and would commit no act designedly which would have a tendency to lessen our standing in their estimation as true men and masons, and would do anything consistent with our masonic character to preserve order and harmony with the fraternity." That word of our Companions is fitly spoken. Now let them "suit their action to the word," and we will hope to see Florida and Virginia "wheeling into line" and taking honorable positions in the General Grand Chapter at its next meeting. We have dwelt longer on this subject than this Grand Chapter may think its importance deserves; but we have done it not merely for the benefit of these Grand Chapters referred to, but for those also which, while they recognize the General Grand Chapter, are still frequently treating the doings of that Body in such a manner as to put weapons into the hands of its enemies. We are not called upon to be the special defenders of the General Grand Chapter, nor do we stop to enquire whether she needs defense, or desires it at our hands. We do not propose now to enquire whether she has a perfect organization, or has done, or can do, all that her friends desire. We plead for her a fair trial and a candid examination of her work, and if improvements are needed, experience will suggest and time will mature them. Let us all hopefully co-operate with her in a noble work till her capacity is fully proved. At the next triennial session in Kentucky, where she proposes to call a family meeting, let all her

children come by their representatives—a royal priesthood—so that she may, with a mother's pride and a swelling heart, extend her maternal arms with that matronly exclamation, "These are my jewels."

In reviewing the correspondence of the several Grand Chapters, we next notice

VERMONT.

Her proceedings come to us in a model document of thirty-two pages, devoted to the annual session at East Berkshire, August 14, 1851. This was a full meeting of the officers. Seven Chapters are represented as in a working and prosperous condition. The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is a business-like document, and it is due to him that we copy his explanation of a use of his name in connection with one of the existing Bodies claiming to be a "Supreme Council":

"In justice to myself, as well as a duty I owe the masonic family, with whom I have been happily associated for nearly half a century, I have been compelled to notice a transaction which ill comports with my masonic feelings. In June last, I found my name published as an officer of a Body styling itself a *Supreme* Council of Grand Inspectors General of the thirty-third degree of masonry, established for the Northern Hemisphere, and sitting in the Valley of New York, of which Jeremy L. Cross is Grand Commander, (who in a letter to me apologizes for using my name without permission.) Having been apprized of the questionable masonic standing of this Council, and ignorant of the degrees alluded to, *I declined* accepting *the appointment. Another Body*, reputed to be the only *legitimate Supreme* Council of that Order for the Northern Hemisphere, on seeing the publication above alluded to, immediately issued a circular, in which was inserted my name with others, (designated in the New York Council), denouncing us as impostors in masonry. Determined not to rest under such imputations, at a sacrifice of time and health I forthwith proceeded to Boston, where I met a major part of the officers of the Council last named, and such explanations were given and received as were deemed satisfactory; the first circular from this Body had gone forth, and could not be recalled or suppressed. To counteract its influence, so far as myself and perhaps others are interested, a second circular was issued. Accompanying this circular I have appended a letter which I have sent to our Companions abroad, signed by me as *High Priest of this Grand Chapter*. This was done not only to vindicate my masonic character and consistency, but also to avert any stigma that might be cast upon this Grand Body by a hasty or imprudent step taken by its first officer. The papers deemed important in the case I lay before you, with a request that, after examination, they may be returned to me; and I ask such action thereon as you in your wisdom may see fit to adopt."

A handsome compliment is paid to the Grand Chapter of Alabama, in the following extract:

"Your committee have been profoundly impressed with the contents of the Report of the Committee on Education, of the Grand Chapter of Alabama. That committee has set forth the *Educational* mission of our order with great power and force, and in a manner which can hardly fail of bringing the subject home to the hearts of all masons who appreciate what belongs to their own characters and the honor of the Institution. Shall this Institution in honorable imitation of Him whose teachings renovated, remodeled and gave unwonted tone and vitality to all modern civil organizations, bid little children come to her bosom, not only to find food and raiment, and shelter, and consolation, but pearls of still greater value; to come to her *Crystal fountains*

of Instruction, Knowledge and Wisdom, and there to imbibe lessons of usefulness and immortality without money and without price? Shall she thus display the resources of her charity, the life and power of her principles, and the noble and native characteristics of her mission to earth?"

"These," say the Vermont Committee, "are thoughts that breathe and words that burn," and such as justly claim to leave their impress upon every reflecting mind. Food and raiment, and shelter, and consolation must be given; and also the "Pearls of greater value," the mental food, which elevates man,

> "Close to the realms where angels have their birth,
> Just on the borders of the spirit land."

The report of the Committee of Correspondence is an exceedingly able document, by the Chairman of the committee, M. E. Companion PHILIP C. TUCKER, who has no occasion to apologize for its prolixity. Various topics are discussed with good temper, and while some of the opinions expressed would not be concurred in by all masons, all may appreciate the candor and courtesy of the committee.

Our last report seems not to have reached them, and the same fate has attended them in several cases. The Committee of Vermont say:

"From the State Grand Chapters not noticed at the beginning of this report, no communications have been received the past year. Frequent failures have occurred in the transmission of our proceedings to other Grand Bodies. Although they have always been faithfully and punctually placed in the Post Office by the Grand Secretary, we find that they have often failed to arrive at their destination. We suggest it as advisable that two copies be always sent, and by different mails. We suggest, also, whether it would not be wise in all cases to leave out altogether everything in the superscription which might distinguish them as masonic documents. The great number of failures in transmitting masonic correspondence may naturally suggest the suspicion that anti-masonry is not yet wholly purged from the Post Office department."

CONNECTICUT.

The Grand Chapter of Connecticut held its Annual Convention in May last, at Hartford. The M. E. Grand High Priest, in his address, thus speaks:

"But, Companions, in our prosperity, in our rejoicings, it may be well for us to remember that the hour of prosperity is frequently the hour of danger. The fairest flower frequently produces the deadliest poison. Elated by success, we too often become careless and neglectful of the means by which success was acquired, and by which alone its continuance can be secured. To this source may be mainly attributed most of the adverse circumstances to which our Institution has from time to time been subjected. The doors of our Lodges and Chapters have sometimes swung too easily on their hinges. The Tyler has been too often found sleeping at his post."

The Report of the Committee of Correspondence contains but little of interest, and occupies a little more than one page.

MICHIGAN.

The new State of Michigan sends us a beautiful report of her meeting at Detroit in January, 1852. The opening address of the M. E. Grand High

Priest is full of good sayings in regard to masonic duty. A single extract will illustrate:

"I want no better evidence that a man has a black heart—a heart wherein the cold, bitter waters of suspicion, envy, jealousy and malice have quenched every generous emotion, a heart where a hell-hatched brood of dark and guilty passions find a fit nestling place—than to hear him continually speaking evil of his neighbors, finding in their conduct everything to censure and nothing to commend. The princely eagle never stoops to prey upon a putrid carcass. It is the flesh-fly—the vilest of his tribe—that lights, with instinctive certainty, upon the unsound parts of the body.

"Remember it is the voice of kindness alone that can woo back those who have strayed. Has thy brother violated any known rule of duty? Publish not his shame to the world; but go to him, take him kindly by the hand, and admonish him of his fault. Tell him the forbidden cup of pleasure he now grasps with such delight contains the bitterest dregs of poison; that beneath every flower blooming along his guilty pathway there coils an adder whose sting is death; that the inclined plane down which he now so swiftly and sweetly glides terminates in a land of darkness and of shadows, where every breeze bears upon its wings the malaria of death."

The Committee of Correspondence copy a part of our last year's report, which they say "ably advocates the utility of the General Grand Chapter." They copy with "unqualified endorsement," subsequently, from the report of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, a passage which says that the General Grand Chapter, "during its late session, did not fulfill the expectations of its friends or meet the wants of the fraternity."

INDIANA.

Indiana represents twenty-two Chapters, which appear to he in a flourishing condition. The last Annual Communication was held in May, 1851. The Grand High Priest reports dispensations to seven new Chapters the preceding year. The report of the Correspondence Committee occupies twenty-two pages, copied, mainly, from the reports of other Chapters.

VIRGINIA.

Virginia has hitherto disclaimed the authority of the General Grand Chapter, but her resolution to inquire into the expediency of becoming affiliated we have already recorded. This Chapter has a fund of $2,000, invested. In the report of this year there is no assault on the General Grand Chapter, and the resolve referred to is the more hopeful in view of this fact. As the last report of the Grand Chapter of Maine is not mentioned by the Committee of Correspondence, it is fair to conclude that Virginia has taken up this line of action self-moved, or moved by an impulse more potent than any influence from a State so distant. We shall look for the report of the committee and the fate of that resolution with deep interest. Virginia reports forty Chapters, and we will desire them prosperity in pursuing the right.

MARYLAND.

Maryland sends us her salutations with hearty good will, and pays a high compliment to her sister in Maine and her last year's report, in the address of the Grand High Priest, which reviews the several Grand Chapters reported to that Body. Speaking of Massachusetts Grand Chapter, from which we have no report, he says:

"This Grand Chapter, although composed of the best Royal Arch Masons in the United States, has ever since 1841 placed her candle under a bushel. For ten years she has not printed her proceedings. Her returns, *in writing*, are regularly made to the General Grand Chapter, and she is doubtless, like everything else in Massachusetts, in a state of prosperity. Let us hope that ere long she will let her light shine before men, that they may see her good works."

To this sentiment your committee respond; let all Royal Arch Masons say, "*So mote it be.*" We copy with pleasure the closing passage of this address:

"Time begins to move fast enough for us then: hours and days, months and years pass, like a moving panorama, rapidly away; age is upon us ere we are aware of the fact, and we find that we are fast approaching that undiscovered country from whence no traveler returns.

"There is, however, a great duty for each one of us to perform as we pass over that 'rough and rugged road' which extends from the cradle to the grave. Let us endeavor to perform it faithfully; and, however short the years may seem to be, let us improve them, so that when there shall be no more occasion for level or plumb-line, for trowel or gavel, for compass or square here on earth, we may 'be received and accepted' into the presence of our Most Excellent Master above, well qualified to enjoy the kingdom prepared for the good that are made perfect in the Celestial Chapter on high."

KENTUCKY.

From Kentucky we have proceedings of the Grand Chapter at Lexington, August, 1851. Forty-nine Chapters are reported in that State, and the report of the Committee of Correspondence is extended through some eight closely printed pages. The action of the General Grand Chapter is partially reported; also that of several State Grand Chapters; and the complaints against the General Grand Chapter are somewhat freely copied. An address was delivered at the laying of the corner-stone for a new Masonic Temple at Louisville, by Rev. J. Linn. We copy a passage in reference to the "Holy City," where masonic art erected a temple to Jehovah:

"Forever cherished and sacred must this spot be to every friend of God and man—especially sacred to his people. Here Abraham was about to offer up his son Isaac. Here David met and appeased the Destroying Angel. Here Jehovah revealed his name and nature. Here David sang and Solomon prayed. Here the ark of the Lord rested. Here the Shekinah unfolded its fleecy mantle. Here God dwelt between the cherubims, and in geometrical figures traced his Trinity in Unity, and issued his Bathkol and revealed his will. How fondly we could have hoped that no tempests would ever have swept over so green and flourishing a field! But, as we gaze, temple and tower, throne and palace lie in undistinguished ruin. And now prophet and king, prince and counsellor, decrepit old age and virgin innocence are chained

together, and darkening the hills of Judea with their mournful procession, formed under the eye and goaded by the spear of the haughty Assyrian—away over hill and dale, away over mountain and river, these exiles, forlorn and weary and broken-hearted, are seen slowly moving on towards the place of their captivity; and upon the banks of the cold streams of the North they sit themselves down, and, with downcast countenance and their eyes red with weeping, they can only say in sadness, 'We have no songs to sing now.' And for seventy long and tedious years, sire and son repeated the condition of the covenant of their father David, 'If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth.' They did not forget Jehovah's promises to his people, and the re-building of their temple was a work of the holiest hope and highest interest—a work which involves every pious, every personal, every national feeling."

TENNESSEE.

Thirty-seven Chapters are reported under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, which held its annual session in October, 1851. The report of the committee is occupied chiefly with the discussion of the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, giving the history of those degrees as presented by Comp. A. G. MACKEY, of Charleston, South Carolina, and embodied, n our report. The rest of the report is devoted mainly to the difficulty in New York relative to a Body declared to be a clandestine Chapter, formed by the late Grand Master of the St. John's Grand Lodge under a Consistory warrant.

MISSOURI.

The Grand Chapter of Missouri held its annual session at St. Louis, in May, 1851. Fourteen Chapters are reported in the State. The report of the Committee of Correspondence complains that the General Grand Chapter did not settle certain questions submitted to them, nor accomplish all that was expected of them, and concludes with the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, it is not competent for a Royal Arch Chapter to confer the Chapter degrees on a Master Mason who has but one arm.

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, to take into consideration the propriety of a dissolution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and that said committee report at the next Annual Communication.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, required to address the first four officers of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, and fraternally request them, in the name of this Grand Chapter, to settle what degrees are constitutional, as referred to in the 9th section of Article I, of the General Grand Constitution.

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter cannot consent to the establishment of a representative fund, as proposed by a committee of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States at its last session."

ILLINOIS.

Illinois Grand Chapter, whose organization we announced last year, has sent us a fair report of proceedings from their organization, April, 1850, till

October, 1851. A provisional Constitution and Code of By-Laws make a part of this report, which seem to be well drawn up and adapted to a working Chapter. They send us a list of thirteen well-organized Chapters, with nearly four hundred members. This is a good work for a Grand Chapter two years old; that is, if the work is well done, which we confidently expect of our Companions in Illinois. The address of the Grand High Priest is very brief, and confined to local matters; and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence give us no report, for want of time, and ask further time. We shall hope, another year, for a document from them worthy of their position and progress.

ALABAMA.

Alabama sends us her proceedings for December, 1850, and we have a borrowed copy for 1851. Her sessions at Montgomery appear to have been harmonious, and the reports of the Correspondence Committee are able documents, though limited by receiving so few communications from other States. They recommend care in searching out the localities of all Grand Secretaries, and that two copies of proceedings be sent to each, by different mails, so as to avoid failures.

Your committee heartily respond to this proposition. It is a serious embarrassment to be deprived of these reports, and to fail of receiving them in due time. Alabama, evidently, has failed to receive the reports of Maine, and we have hers for 1851 merely by accident.

The report of the Committee on Education, by Comp. TORREY, is a noble document, and we present you its concluding paragraph:

"The Grand Bodies who annually assemble here can, as such, do but little themselves. Their pecuniary means are limited, and it is not their policy to accumulate large sums of money. Individual Chapters and Lodges, from which all the funds of the Grand Bodies are derived, can and ought to do much. We urge it upon them to establish funds for this purpose—to husband their resources and make them available only for this desirable end. As individual masons, we can do still more. If we cast our bread upon the waters, we shall find it after many days. The results of long continued and strenuous efforts will not disappoint the most sanguine.

"We call upon our brethren of the Northern and Southern portions of the State not to yield the palm of honor to the dwellers between the mountains and the sea, and we call upon those in the West to keep equal pace with their friends in the East. We present a good account this year—why shall we not have done better next? Why not have in every County in the State adequate means of education for every child and orphan of every indigent mason among us? Our Lodges and Chapters are constantly increasing. It is generally difficult and undesirable to send children away from their homes. Let concert of action be established, and this desirable object is accomplished. Every Lodge and Chapter will then see how their funds are expended, and what results flow from their exertions. It will not then be the fortunate few, who reside in favored localities, who will be the sole recipients of masonic beneficence, but its benefits and privileges will be more universally diffused, even as the principles of masonry are universal."

ARKANSAS.

From Arkansas we have the first Grand Chapter salutations, being the proceedings of a Convention held in the city of Little Rock, on the 25th of April, 1851, to establish a Grand Chapter for the State.

The organization was promptly effected, the officers chosen and installed, and the Committee of Correspondence chosen. We hail this sister Grand Chapter with pleasure, and bid her welcome to the family circle and the active labors of the Fraternity.

Your committee here close their examination of the correspondence of the Grand Chapters whose published proceedings have reached us. We have suffered them to speak in their own language on many of the important subjects which have claimed their attention. It would have been easy to gather from these reports numerous complimentary notices of this Grand Chapter and its published proceedings, but we need no such incitements to lead us to prize our birth-right, and appreciate the work given us in charge by the providence of God and our position as a frontier State, in one extremity of our beloved Union. Would the limits of this report allow, we would more cheerfully give further utterance to the eloquent words of our Companions, on the great truths and duties of our Order, than to any compliments they may be pleased to bestow on us as a sister Grand Chapter. We will not longer engross your attention with any suggestions of our own, though several fields of enquiry temptingly invite. These we surrender to those who shall come after us, and commit this report, with all its imperfections, to the kind indulgence of the Grand Chapter which it has been our privilege to serve, and commend all the interests of our beloved Order to the fostering care of our Most Excellent High Priest who has passed into the Heavens.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,
JOSEPH C. STEVENS, } *Committee.*
JOSEPH COVELL,

M. E. Past Grand High Priest BRADFORD, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Credentials have attended to the duty assigned them, and report—

That all the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction are represented, as follows:

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—

Comp. JOSEPH SMITH, High Priest.
" CYRUS CUMMINGS, King.
" R. W. KENNARD, Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick, by—

Comp. OCTAVIUS O. MERRILL, proxy for King.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—

Comp. JOSEPH C. STEVENS, proxy for High Priest.
" JABEZ TRUE, King.
" E. G. RAWSON, Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter, Augusta, by—

Comp. LORY BACON, High Priest.
" JOSEPH COVELL, proxy for King.
" E. A. CHADWICK, proxy for Scribe.

Corinthian Chapter, Belfast, by—

Comp. TIMOTHY CHASE, High Priest.
" JOSIAH FARROW, King.
" H. G. O. WASHBURN, proxy for Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, Wiscasset, by—

Comp. THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, High Priest.
" D. K. KENNEDY, proxy for King.

King Solomon's Chapter, Rockland, by—

Comp. JOSEPH MILLER, proxy for High Priest.
" EBEN COBB, Scribe.

There were also present the following named Permanent Members and proxies for Permanent Members, to wit:

Comp. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, P. G. H. P.,
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, P. G. H. P.,
" OLIVER GERRISH, P. G. H. P.,
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, P. G. H. P.,
" OLIVER B. DORRANCE, P. G. S.,
" CHARLES B. SMITH, P. G. S.,
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, proxy for E. FOOTE, Permanent Member,
" THOMAS EATON, proxy for AMOS NOURSE, Permanent Member,
" JOHN J. BELL, proxy for J. P. BOYD, P. G. K.

All which is respectfully submitted,

F. BRADFORD, *Chairman.*

On motion of Comp. DUNLAP, it was

Voted, To proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year.

On motion, Comp's J. C. Stevens, Cyril Pearl and S. B. Dodge were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers; which committee, having attended to that duty, reported that the following Companions had all the votes cast for the offices set against their respective names:

M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	TIMOTHY CHASE,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON,	*Grand King.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" *Secretary.*

Committee of Finance,

CHARLES B. SMITH, FREEMAN BRADFORD, LORY BACON.

Which report was accepted, and the Grand Officers and committee declared legally elected.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, till two o'clock Thursday afternoon.

Thursday, May 6, 2 o'clock p. m.

The Grand Chapter resumed its labors, M. E. Grand High Priest Williams in the Chair. Present as yesterday.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following appointments, which were severally approved and accepted by the Grand Chapter:

Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	"	"
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	"	"
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	"	"
"	N. C. FLETCHER, Belfast,	"	"
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	"	"
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	"	"
"	SAMUEL LIBBY, Rockland,	"	"
"	S. J. TALLMAN, Bath,	"	*Marshal.*
"	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	"	*Sentinel.*

On motion, it was

Voted, To postpone the installation of the officers of this Grand Chapter till nine o'clock Friday morning.

On motion of Grand Secretary HAINES,

Voted, To pay Comp. PEARL the sum of twenty dollars for his services as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Comp. C. B. SMITH, from the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, made the following favorable report upon the petition of Jerusalem Chapter, which was accepted:

The Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, to whom was referred the petition of Jerusalem Chapter, now located, by dispensation, in the city of Augusta, respectfully report:

That, from information derived from Companions residing upon and in the vicinity of the Kennebec River, as well as from the unanimous vote of Jerusalem Chapter to that effect, the committee are of the opinion that the interests and prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in that section of the State will be promoted by granting the prayer of the petitioners, and authorizing said Jerusalem Chapter to hold their future meetings at Gardiner, Hallowell and Augusta, in rotation, to wit: one year at a time in each of those cities; and the committee recommend that the M. E. Grand High Priest be requested to issue his dispensation to said Jerusalem Chapter, in accordance with this proposition, and that no fee for such dispensation be charged.

All which is respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH,
TIMOTHY CHASE, } *Committee.*
JABEZ TRUE,

Comp. GERRISH, from Committee on Returns of Subordinates, made the following report, which was read and accepted:

The Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned them, and find that returns have been received from all the Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter; and that New Jerusalem Chapter has made returns for the years ending in April, 1849 and 1851, wherein it was reported deficient last year. The dues of said Chapter have been paid, except a balance of $19.46, which is promised to be paid shortly.

Jerusalem and Mt. Moriah Chapters only have complied with the resolve passed at the last Annual Convocation, requiring the several Chapters under its jurisdiction to report to this Convocation the names and residences of all known Royal Arch Masons within their several jurisdictions who are not members of some legally constituted Royal Arch Chapter.

The following table will exhibit the number of members belonging to the several Chapters, Royal Arch Masons not members, the number of exaltations during the past year, and the amount of dues received from each Chapter:

	Members.	Royal Arch Masons not members.	Exaltations.	Dues.
Mount Vernon,	126		3	$15.00
Montgomery,	46		1	11.00
New Jerusalem,	13		9	46.46
Jerusalem,	43	15	6	20.13
Mount Moriah,	50	25	12	35.52
Corinthian,	38		1	12.70
King Solomon's	28		2	13.00
	344	40	34	$153.81

Which is respectfully submitted,

A. B. THOMPSON, }
OLIVER GERRISH, } *Committee.*

The Grand Chapter was then called off, to remain at refreshment till nine o'clock Friday morning.

FRIDAY, May 7, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter resumed its labors.

Present as yesterday.

M. E. Comp. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, G. G. H. P. of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, assisted by M. E. Comp. JOSEPH C. STEVENS as Grand Marshal, installed into their respective chairs the following named officers, to wit:

M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS, Bangor,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	TIMOTHY CHASE, Belfast,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	A. B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	*Grand King.*
"	HENRY H. BOODY, Portland,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ALLEN HAINES, Portland,	" *Secretary.*
"	SCOTT J. TALLMAN, Bath,	" *Marshal.*

Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	"	"
"	J. HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	"	"
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	"	"
"	N. C. FLETCHER, Belfast,	"	"
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	"	"
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	"	"
"	SAMUEL LIBBY, Rockland,	"	"
"	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	"	*Sentinel.*

This done, the Grand Marshal made proclamation that the Grand Officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, for the ensuing masonic year, were duly installed into their respective chairs, in legal and ancient form.

Comp. SMITH, from the Committee on Finance, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee of Finance respectfully report: That they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find them carefully and correctly kept, and the disbursements duly avouched for. There was a balance in his hands, at time of the last annual settlement, of $59.56. Since which time he has received the sum of $134.35, making in the whole the sum of $193.91. He has paid out during the past year the sum of $126.98, which, being deducted from the amount received, leaves in his hands, at this time, a balance of $66.93. There is also in his hands, belonging to the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, a balance of $47.78. That fund consists of four shares of bank stock, viz: one in the Canal and three in Casco Bank, in Portland.

All which is respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH, }
LORY BACON, } *Committee.*

Comp. SMITH offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the sum of ten dollars be allowed and paid to M. E. Comp. OLIVER GERRISH for his services as Grand Treasurer for the past year.

The Mark Master and Royal Arch Lectures were given by M. E. Comp. R. P. DUNLAP and STEPHEN LOVELL.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in ample form by M. E. Comp. LOVELL.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

In account with OLIVER GERRISH, *Grand Treasurer.*

Cr.

1851.		
June 27.	By balance of account,	$ 59.56
1852.		
May 5.	" cash of Mt. Moriah Royal Arch Chapter,	35.52
April 10.	" " Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter,	15.00
May 5.	" " Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter,	20.13
	" " King Solomon's Royal Arch Chapter,	13.00
	" " Corinthian Royal Arch Chapter,	12.70
	" " Montgomery Royal Arch Chapter,	11.00
	" " New Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter,	27.00
		$193.91

Dr.

1851.			
Oct. 9.	To cash paid F. W. Nichols & Co.,	$80.59	
	" " Edwards, Carter & Co.,	1.00	
Dec. 18.	" " for insurance,	1.65	
1852.			
May 6.	" " Allen Haines,	22.24	
	" " Cyril Pearl,	20.00	
7.	" " W. T. Johnson,	.75	
	" " Wheeler & Simpson,	.75	
	" Balance to new account,	66.93	
			$193.91

Portland, May 7, 1852. OLIVER GERRISH, *Grand Treasurer.*

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF MAINE, IN THE CARE OF THE GRAND TREASURER, VIZ:

One Breast Plate and Collar.
One Jewel for the Dep. Grand High Priest.
" " Grand King.
" " " Scribe.
" " " Treasurer.
" " " Secretary.
" " " Marshal.
Four Jewels " " Chaplains.
" " " Stewards.
One Jewel " " Sentinel.

Two Trunks in the care of the Grand Secretary.

One Trunk in the care of the Grand Treasurer.

One Seal in the care of the Grand Secretary.

Two Diploma plates, deposited with Comp. G. G. Smith, Engraver, of Boston, for the purpose of disposing of one, and taking Diplomas from the other.

One Banner and Case.

One Valise.

One Apron.

The Charity Fund consists of one share in the Canal Bank, and three shares in the Casco Bank, and a balance of forty-seven dollars and seventy-eight cents in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

OLIVER GERRISH, *Grand Treasurer.*

Portland, May 7, 1852.

CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

By order of the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maine, a Convention of High Priests was holden at Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on Friday, the 7th day of May, 1852, and duly organized by the election of M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP as President, and M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH as Secretary.

PRESENT.

M. E. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,
" STEPHEN LOVELL,
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,
" JOHN WILLIAMS,
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,
" OLIVER GERRISH,
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,
" STEPHEN WEBBER,
" CHARLES B. SMITH.

Applications were received, and properly vouched, from M. E. TIMOTHY CHASE, High Priest of Corinthian Chapter, M. E. LORY BACON, High Priest of Jerusalem Chapter, and M. E. JOSEPH SMITH, High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter, soliciting the Con-

vention to confer upon them severally the Order of High Priesthood—with which requests the Convention voted unanimously to comply; and they were severally created High Priests, and duly anointed as such.

Voted, That a copy of the proceedings of this Convention be furnished to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Maine, with a request that they be published with the proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

The Convention was then dissolved.

Attest: C. B. SMITH, *Secretary.*

A true copy of the original paper presented to me for record and publication.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

The following report of the doings of a Convention of High Priests, held at Bangor, June 25, 1851, were accidentally omitted in the published proceedings of the last year.

BANGOR, June 25, 1851.

A Convention of Past High Priests was organized by the choice of M. E. C. B. SMITH as President, and M. E. OLIVER GERRISH, Secretary. Present, M. E. C. B. SMITH, JOHN WILLIAMS, J. C. STEVENS, FREEMAN BRADFORD, B. S. DEAN and OLIVER GERRISH.

Application having been made for the order of High Priesthood from M. E. W. H. MILLS, of Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, accompanied by satisfactory testimonials of his election to the office of High Priest, the Convention cheerfully complied with his request, and anointed him as such.

These proceedings were ordered to be presented to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, to be recorded and published with the proceedings of that Body.

The Convention then closed.

Attest: OLIVER GERRISH, *Secretary.*

A true copy of the original return forwarded to me for record.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

OFFICERS

OF THE

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

INSTALLED JUNE 24, A. L. 5852.

M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS, Bangor,	Grand High Priest.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE, Belfast,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	Grand King.
"	HENRY H. BOODY, Portland,	" Scribe.
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, Portland,	" Secretary.
"	SCOTT J. TALLMAN, Bath,	" Marshal.
Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	" Chaplain.
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	" "
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	" "
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	" "
"	N. C. FLETCHER, Belfast,	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	" Steward.
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	" "
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	" "
"	SAMUEL LIBBY, Rockland,	" "
"	SIMEON EVERTON, Bangor,	" Sentinel.

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER—PORTLAND.

M. E.	JOSEPH SMITH, ...	High Priest.
E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS, ...	King.
"	R. W. KENNARD, ...	Scribe.
Comp.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	Treasurer.
"	SETH BIRD, ...	Secretary.
"	JOHN RUSSELL, JR., ...	Capt. of Host.
"	MOSES DODGE, ...	Prin. Sojourner.
"	THOMAS J. SANBORN, ...	Royal Arch Capt.

Comp.	Charles Fores,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Henry C. Lovell,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Oliver C. Waterman,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	John Dain,	Steward.
"	Elias M. Plimpton,	"
"	Isaac Davis,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 3.

Annual Communication—Third Monday in October. Regular Communication—Third Monday in each month.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER—Bangor.

M. E.	William H. Mills,	High Priest.
E.	Jabez True,	King.
"	E. G. Rawson,	Scribe.
Comp.	J. C. Stevens,	Treasurer.
"	George W. Snow,	Secretary.
"	Benjamin S. Dean,	Capt. of Host.
"	Cyrus Brown,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	S. B. Brown,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	John J. Bell,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Alden Harlow,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Timothy H. Morse,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Alfred Kirkpatrick,	Steward.
"	Gustavus F. Sargent,	"
"	Simeon Everton,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 11.

Annual Communication—December 10. Regular Communication—Thursday on or preceding full moon.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Augusta.

M. E.	Lory Bacon,	High Priest.
E.	Stephen Lord,	King.
"	E. A. Chadwick,	Scribe.
Comp.	John Dorr,	Treasurer.
"	James H. Patterson,	Secretary.
"	Leonard Cross,	Capt. of Host.
"	B. F. Chandler,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Theodore Clark,	Royal Arch Capt.

Comp.	A. R. Nichols,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	E. Ballard,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Peter Vigoureaux,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	C. S. Buckley,	Steward.
"	C. G. Batchelder,	"
"	Jacob H. Arnold,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 6.

Annual Communication in October. Regular Communication—Thursday on or next preceding full moon.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER—Belfast.

M. E.	Timothy Chase,	High Priest.
E.	Josiah Farrow,	King.
"	William Frederick,	Scribe.
Comp.	James P. Furber,	Treasurer.
"	Oshea Page,	Secretary.
"	H. G. O. Washburn,	Capt. of Host.
"	Benjamin Kelly,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	W. O. Poor,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	E. C. Keen,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Joseph Dennett, Jr.,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Daniel Howard,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	L. B. Wetherbee,	Steward.
"	Joseph S. Noyes,	"
"	Wm. Holt,	"
"	Ezekiel Burgess,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the year, 1.

Annual Convocation on Monday succeeding full moon in January.

Regular Communication—Thursday on or before the full of the moon.

MONTGOMERY CHAPTER—Bath.

M. E.	Scott J. Tallman,	High Priest.
E.	John D. Lincoln,	King.
"	Richard Greenleaf,	Scribe.
Comp.	Dennis Hatch,	Treasurer.
"	Ephraim Brown,	Secretary.
"	Samuel S. Wing,	Capt. of Host.
"	John H. Kimball,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	B. F. Currier,	Royal Arch Capt.

Comp.	Thomas Eaton,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Robert Bowker,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Abner B. Thompson,	Steward.
"	John Young,	Sentinel.

Companion exalted the past year, 1.

Annual Communication in August. Regular Communication—Wednesday on or next preceding full moon.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER—Rockland.

M. E.	D. M. Mitchell,	High Priest.
E.	Charles Holmes,	King.
"	Ebenezer Cobb,	Scribe.
Comp.	Samuel Libby,	Treasurer.
"	E. H. Cochrain,	Secretary.
"	S. B. Dockham,	Capt. of Host.
"	O. P. Mitchell,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Larkin Snow,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Joseph Miller,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	M. S. Whiting,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	James Keeler,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Minot Tolman,	Steward.
"	Stephen Barrows,	"
"	M. E. Thurlo,	Sentinel.

Number of exaltations during the year, 2.

Annual Meeting on Tuesday succeeding the full moon in January. Regular Communication—First Thursday after the full moon.

NEW JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Wiscasset.

M. E.	Thomas B. Johnston,	High Priest.
E.	Henry Clark,	King.
"	Elbridge G. Webber,	Scribe.
Comp.	Asa F. Hall,	Treasurer.
"	James Taylor,	Secretary.
"	Daniel K. Kennedy,	Capt. of Host.
"	Alfred McLean,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Sullivan Wright,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the past year, 3.

Annual Communication—January. Regular Communication—Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1853.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine assembled at Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on Wednesday, May 4, A. L. 5853, A. D. 1853, at seven o'clock P. M.

PRESENT.

M. E.	JOHN WILLIAMS,	Grand High Priest.
"	TIMOTHY CHASE,	Dep. G. H. Priest.
"	A. B. THOMPSON,	Grand King.
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" Secretary.
"	THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	" Marshal, *pro tem.*
Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	" Chaplain.
Comp.	LORY BACON,	" Steward.
"	ISAAC DAVIS,	" Sentinel.

And a large number of Permanent Members and a full representation of the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form by the M. E. Grand High Priest, and prayer was offered by the Rev. and E. Comp. CYRUS CUMMINGS, Grand Chaplain.

On motion of Comp. THOMPSON, it was

Voted, To dispense with reading the journal of the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, as the same had been published and placed in the hands of the members.

On motion of Comp. HUMPHREYS, it was

Voted, To admit all Royal Arch Masons in regular standing, to witness the proceedings of the Grand Chapter during the convocation.

On motion of Comp. BRADFORD, it was

Voted, To instruct the Chair to appoint the usual standing committees.

Whereupon the M. E. Grand High Priest appointed the following Committees:

On Credentials.—E. Comp's FREEMAN BRADFORD, JOSEPH C. STEVENS, JOSEPH S. NOYES.

On Grievances and Appeals.—E. Comp's E. G. RAWSON, R. W. KENNARD, JOSEPH SMITH.

On Warrants and Dispensations.—E. Comp's CHARLES B. SMITH, JAREZ TRUE, THOMAS B. JOHNSTON.

On Returns of Subordinates.—E. Comp's OLIVER GERRISH, O. A. MERRILL, LORY BACON.

On Doings of Grand Officers.—E. Comp's J. C. HUMPHREYS, J. C. STEVENS, J. B. COYLE.

On Foreign Correspondence.—E. Comp's CYRIL PEARL, CYRUS CUMMINGS, JOSEPH COVELL.

Grand Secretary HAINES made the following report upon the state of the Charity Fund, which was ordered to be published with the proceedings of this session of the Grand Chapter:

Agreeably to Article 5 of the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, I herewith present a statement of said Fund.

The whole amount of said Fund is $479.78, consisting of—

Three shares Casco Bank,	$300.00
One share Canal Bank,	100.00
Cash in hands of Grand Treasurer,	79.78

Amount of income from Charity Fund last year was $32.00.

ALLEN HAINES,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Grand Secretary HAINES also presented the following petition from Companions in the County of York:

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.

The undersigned, Royal Arch Masons in good standing, having the prosperity of the craft at heart, and being desirous of diffusing the genuine principles of Freemasonry as inculcated in the Royal Arch Chapter, pray that the

charter of York Chapter may be restored to them, with authority to reorganize said Chapter, and therein to discharge the duties of Royal Arch Masons in conformity to the Constitution, laws and edicts of the Grand Chapter of the State.

JACOB MARSTON,
S. S. FAIRFIELD,
EDWARD S. MOULTON,
THOMAS P. TUFTS,
DANIEL B. EMERSON,
NATHAN LEONARD,
JOHN CHADWICK,
JOHN SPRING,
STEPHEN FAIRFIELD,
JOHN JOHNSON,
THURSTON LIBBY,
ELIJAH SMITH,
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY.

The foregoing petition was referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations, who subsequently made the following report, which was accepted, and the appended resolution adopted:

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations, to whom was referred the petition of JACOB MARSTON and twelve others for the restoration of the charter of York Chapter, at Saco, have had the same under consideration, and report that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH,
JABEZ TRUE,
THOS. B. JOHNSTON, } *Committee.*

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be and he is hereby required to deliver the charter of York Chapter to the Companions who have petitioned for its restoration.

Comp. STEVENS, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Credentials having attended to the duty assigned them, ask leave to report.

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—

Comp. JOSEPH SMITH, High Priest.
" R. W. KENNARD, King.

Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick, by—
Comp. O. A. MERRILL, proxy for High Priest.

Jerusalem Chapter, Gardiner, by—
Comp. E. A. CHADWICK, High Priest.
" STEPHEN WEBBER, proxy for King.
" LORY BACON, proxy for Scribe.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—
Comp. J. C. STEVENS, proxy for High Priest.
" JABEZ TRUE, King.
" E. G. RAWSON, Scribe.

Corinthian Chapter, Belfast, by—
Comp. TIMOTHY CHASE, High Priest.
" JOSEPH S. NOYES, proxy for King.
" DANIEL HOWARD, Scribe.

King Solomon's Chapter, Rockland, by—
Comp. S. B. DOCKHAM, High Priest.
" JOSEPH MILLER, proxy for King.
" EBENEZER COBB, Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, Wiscasset, by—
Comp. THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, High Priest.

We also find the following named Permanent Members:

Comp. OLIVER GERRISH, P. G. H. P.
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, P. G. H. P.
" CHARLES B. SMITH, P. G. S.
" R. P. DUNLAP, P. G. H. P.
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, P. G. H. P.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

FREEMAN BRADFORD,
J. C. STEVENS,
JOSEPH S. NOYES,
} *Committee.*

Comp. BRADFORD, from the Committee on Finance, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Finance have attended to the duty devolved on them by the Constitution and regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and submit the following report:

The committee find that there has been received from all sources, since the last Annual Convocation, the sum of $201.86. The balance of last year's account was $66.93, which, added to the sum first named, amounts to the

sum of $268.79—properly chargeable to your Grand Treasurer during the current year.

The whole amount of the expenditures of the Grand Treasurer during the year, is $119.59; and the balance on hand is $149.20.

We find all payments properly vouched, and all receipts agreeable to the returns of the Subordinate Chapters.

All which is respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH,
FREEMAN BRADFORD, } *Committee.*
LORY BACON,

Comp. CHADWICK presented the following communication from Jerusalem Chapter, which was referred to a special committee, consisting of Comp's S. B. DOCKHAM, B. F. MUDGETT, and CHARLES B. SMITH:

At a communication of Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter, holden at Masons' Hall, in Gardiner, April 21, 1853, it was, on motion,

Voted, That our representatives to the Grand Chapter be requested to present the following questions at its next session:

First. Ought a ballot to be had upon each degree?

Second. If no, is any Companion entitled to have a ballot taken for the fifth, sixth or seventh degrees, after a candidate has been once balloted for and taken the fourth degree?

Third. If any Companion is so entitled, should the ballot be taken at the time the Companion demands it, or when the candidate presents himself for the degree?

Fourth. Is it Masonic to take a ballot on the higher degrees, when the Chapter is open as a Mark Master's Lodge?

A true copy from the records.

Attest: JAS. H. PATTERSON, *Secretary.*

The special committee on that subject made the following report, which was accepted, and the by-law adopted:

The special committee to whom was referred the memorial of Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter, having attended to their duty, ask leave to report:

Your committee have given the subject their careful consideration, and, in answer to the first question in said memorial, would say, that one ballot for the degrees is sufficient.

In answer to the third question, they would say, that it is proper to ballot for a candidate when he shall have stood proposed a sufficient time.

They would also recommend an amendment to the regulations of this Grand Chapter, by the addition of the following regulation, to wit:

That all balloting for candidates for the degrees and membership, shall be had on the seventh degree.

All which is respectfully submitted,

S. B. DOCKHAM, B. F. MUDGETT, } *Committee.*

On motion of Comp. HUMPHREYS, it was

Voted, To proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

Comp's COVELL, STEVENS and TRUE were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers. Comp. STEVENS, from said committee, subsequently reported that they had attended to the duty assigned them, and that the following Companions had received a majority of the votes cast for the offices set against their respective names: the report was accepted, and the Grand Officers declared elected, as follows, to wit:

M. E.	TIMOTHY CHASE,	*Grand High Priest.*
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON,	*Dep. Grand High Priest.*
"	JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	*Grand King.*
"	STEPHEN WEBBER,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH,	" *Treasurer.*
"	ALLEN HAINES,	" *Secretary.*

On motion, the Grand Chapter proceeded to ballot for a Finance Committee, and the following Companions were elected, viz:

FREEMAN BRADFORD,
LORY BACON,
CHARLES B. SMITH.

Comp. GERRISH, from Committee on Returns of Subordinates, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned, and find that the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter have made returns of their doings the past year, and paid their dues to the Grand Treasurer, as per schedule annexed.

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVER GERRISH, LORY BACON, O. A. MERRILL, } *Committee.*

SCHEDULE ANNEXED.

	Members.	Exaltations.	Dues.
Mount Vernon Chapter,	132	9	$28.04
Montgomery Chapter,	33	7	23.00
New Jerusalem Chapter,	26	13	35.00
Jerusalem Chapter,	41	2	15.17
Mount Moriah Chapter,	40	16	41.00
Corinthian Chapter,	36	3	16.30
King Solomon's Chapter,	38	7	23.35
	346	57	$181.86

On motion of Comp. SMITH, it was

Voted, To proceed to the installation of the Grand Officers elect.

The Grand Officers elect were thereupon installed in ample form by M. E. Grand High Priest DUNLAP.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following appointments, which were severally approved and accepted by the Grand Chapter, and duly installed into their respective offices:

Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	*Grand*	*Chaplain.*
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	"	"
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Brunswick,	"	"
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	"	"
"	N. C. FLETCHER, Belfast,	"	"
"	WILLIAM WILLIAN, Bangor,	"	"
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	"	*Steward.*
"	JOHN J. BELL, Carmel,	"	"
"	S. S. WING, Brunswick,	"	"
"	JOSEPH S. NOYES, Belfast,	"	"
"	THOS. B. JOHNSTON, Wiscasset,	"	*Marshal.*
"	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	"	*Sentinel.*

The Grand Marshal then made the usual proclamation that the Grand Officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, both elected and appointed, were legally installed into their respective chairs.

On motion of Comp. COVELL, the Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, to remain at refreshment till eight o'clock A. M. Thursday, May 5.

THURSDAY, May 5, 8 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter was called to labor. Present as yesterday.

On motion of Comp. COVELL, it was

Voted, That a special committee of three be appointed to report resolutions relative to the death of our Worthy and Most Excellent Companions JOSEPH M. GERRISH, P. D. G. H. P., and HENRY H. BOODY, Grand Scribe of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appointed upon that committee Comp's C. B. SMITH, JOSEPH COVELL and E. A. CHADWICK, who subsequently made the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions adopted:

Whereas, In the just dispensation of an all-wise Providence, the Grand Chapter of Maine have been called to mourn the loss by death of two of their honored and worthy members, Comp's JOSEPH M. GERRISH and HENRY H. BOODY, both of whom have been able and faithful officers of this Grand Body, and both distinguished for the liberal exercise of those principles of charity and beneficence which characterize all true masons: therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter deeply lament the loss of those worthy Companions, and would, with deep solemnity, view this dispensation as a solemn warning to us to be prepared for our own approaching dissolution.

Resolved, That the sincere sympathies and condolence of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the families of the said deceased, and, as a token of our respect for their memory,—

Resolved, That the regalia of the Grand Chapter be dressed in mourning.

C. B. SMITH,
JOSEPH COVELL, } *Committee.*
E. A. CHADWICK,

The lectures of the Mark Master's and Royal Arch degrees were then exemplified by Comp's S. B. DOCKHAM and T. B. JOHNSTON.

After which, the Grand Chapter was called off till eight o'clock A. M. Friday, May 6.

FRIDAY, May 6, 8 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Chapter was called to labor.

Present as yesterday, excepting the M. E. Grand High Priest CHASE.

M. E. Past Grand High Priest STEVENS in the Chair.

On motion of Comp. HUMPHREYS, it was

Voted, To send one delegate to the Triennial Convention of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, in September next, and that the expenses of said delegate be paid by this Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was then called off, to remain at refreshment till two o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY, 2 o'clock P. M.

Comp. PEARL, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was accepted and reading dispensed with, on motion of Comp. DOCKHAM:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The return of this annual festival summons the Committee on Foreign Correspondence to a most welcome duty. We present you to-day, with more than ordinary satisfaction, the fraternal salutations of the Excellent Companions who in all parts of our common country are aiding the noble enterprise of building the walls, re-constructing the arches and re-polishing the ornaments and symbols of our masonic temple.

In the report of your committee two years ago, the following language occurs:

"It is to be remembered that in the revival of masonry the progress and prosperity of the Chapter must necessarily be subsequent to the prosperity of the Lodge, for the reason that its members must be versed in all the work of the Lodge before entering the Chapter. It is manifest that the tide of prosperity is now setting rapidly in this direction, and there is a corresponding necessity for the earnest and skillful administration of this department of masonic jurisprudence. This conviction seems to pervade the Grand Chapters whose proceedings have reached us, and yet there does not appear to be evidence

that all the departments of labor are yet as well matured and systemized as in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges. This is especially the case in the Reports on Foreign Correspondence, which, in general, it is to be regretted, are not full or specific and instructive, as it is hoped they will be hereafter."

Two years of observation confirm the justness of those remarks and of the causes then assigned for the facts thus stated, and the reports now before us justify the broadest expectations then cherished of the future course of this branch of masonry.

Then we had returns from but twelve of the Grand Chapters, and several of these shed but a feeble light on the jewels of the craft or the pathway of human life. Now we have returns from almost double that number of Grand Chapters, and their light shines with stronger brilliancy and reflects across the Continent, from State to State, some of the brightest beams of hope and assurances of human progress that cheer us in life's pilgrimage.

The addresses and reports of Committees on Correspondence display a very high order of talent, and in many of them there is a beauty of expression and a force of illustration that do honor to the iostitution whose discipline has largely contributed to these rich displays of intellect and heart. The temptation to borrow largely the "thoughts that breathe and words that burn" scattered through these documents is very urgent, but, having done this so largely in our report of the last year, your committee forbear. They will, however, suggest, in passing, that it would be very desirable to preserve with care and arrange in suitable volumes for future reference these reports, as has been done in the Grand Lodge. We may thus form the nucleus of a Masonic Library of great value to those who shall fill our places when we have finished our earthly career and gone to our reward. We may thus leave cherished memorials that we lived not in vain nor exclusively for ourselves.

We do not deem it necessary at this time to examine in detail all the actions and opinions in the several documents before us, nor to bring into minute analysis or comparison the varied excellencies of each, where so many are really excellent. It seems to us a more important service now to call attention to the more important topics which demand a careful examination, and which must necessarily come before the General Grand Chapter at its next triennial session in September of this year. We call attention first to the existence and mission of

THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

We do this the more earnestly because we believe its existence and its future line of policy to be of vital importance to the interests of masonry, not in this department merely, but in all its departments—not to the Masonic Institution in this country merely, but throughout the world. This bearing of the question was deeply felt by your committee more than two years ago, when first called to examine the reports of the several Grand Chapters in the preparation of their first report. This subject, it is recollected, was discussed

with earnestness again last year, in our review of the action of Virginia and Florida, on which we commented with great freedom.

It is doubtless remembered that at the last triennial session in Boston, in 1850, Comp. TUPPER, of Mississippi, offered the following resolution, which was laid on the table:

"*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to designate the place for holding the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter be and they are hereby instructed to inquire and report as to the expediency of abolishing this General Grand Chapter, and of recommending the adoption of the same course by all other General Grand Bodies in the United States, with the view of establishing in their place a General Grand Convocation of Masonic Delegates, representing all State Grand Bodies, to meet annually or triennially at some central location, for the purpose of exercising a general legislative jurisdiction over all Masonic Bodies in the United States."

This proposition was not acted upon. It will doubtless come up for discussion at the next session of the General Grand Chapter, and, having been before the country some three years, an important crisis will have been reached, requiring the wisest counsels of the Fraternity. In the mean time, the Grand Chapters of the country have nearly all, in one form or another, discussed the general question, and published a variety of conflicting views as to the past action of the General Grand Chapter, and the expediency of its continued existence. Three of the Grand Chapters have steadily disclaimed its authority, and assailed it with language and weapons which your committee felt called upon to criticise and rebuke in our reports for 1851 and 1852. It is to be regretted that numbers of the Grand Chapters that are in connection with that Body, have yet been too ready to repeat and publish the assaults of its enemies, and thus in turn furnish new weapons for assailing it. No other Grand Chapter, your committee are assured, has so fully spread before its subordinates the action of the last session of the General Grand Chapter, as this Body has done. No other has so earnestly vindicated its action from the assaults and misrepresentations referred to.

That this service has been needed and is now accomplishing an important purpose, your committee are fully assured. The evidence of this, in regard to the Grand Chapter of Florida, was made to appear in our report the last year. We are now able to express the hope that Virginia, also, is upon the right track, and will soon join her counsels and strength with her sister States in sustaining the General Grand Chapter, perfecting its organization, and guiding its legislation. We have now a voice from Mississippi, which deserves to be heard on this question, as it bears directly on the proposition of Comp. LEWIS of that State, to abolish the General Grand Chapter. It is the more important in view of the fact that Comp. TUPPER was on the committee which prepared this report, Comp. SCOTT being its chairman, and one worthy to fill such a post in any State in the Union. His words deserve a careful attention:

"The resolution under review was introduced in the General Grand Chapter by our immediate representative in that Body, and one of your committee.

It embodies no expression of opinion, but merely proposes an enquiry into the propriety and expediency of abolishing the General Grand Chapter. Your committee can very well judge of the motive of our representative in offering said resolution, and of those who recommended such proceeding. Doubtless they were deeply impressed with many existing evils in the constitution and legislation of the General Grand Chapter, to correct or remove which appeared to them highly important and necessary, before that body would become what it was designed to be. Your committee are in favor of all just and enlightened systems of reform, and will always be found willing to cultivate their humble energies and influence to advance the prosperity of the order; and such reforms, we admit, are requisite and necessary.

"But the resolution of the General Grand Chapter directs an enquiry into the propriety of destroying our present organization, and substituting some other form of rule or government in its place. It involves a solemn proposition, and if we have the power to enter upon so difficult an undertaking as that of changing our form of government, the subject will demand all the virtue and wisdom of our institution, to create any better system than that under which we have acted for many years, and whose authority has been recognized by most of the Grand Chapters. Your committee do not intend to enter upon a full or lengthy discussion of the matter in hand. They are content to make a simple suggestion which may lead to the discovery of many evils and difficulties which might arise in the event that the proposed reorganization should meet with general favor. Under and by virtue of what authority does this Grand Chapter act? It is the creation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Its charter of incorporation emanated from that Body—by whose fundamental law it is regulated and sustained. It fixes and nominates the first officers of the State Grand Chapters, and defines their powers. They can do no act and legislate on no subject in violation of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and if that Constitution is abolished and that Grand Body dissolved, what is to become of the State Grand Chapters, and of all the Subordinate Chapters working under their respective jurisdictions? If the source of their power and the head of all their authority is destroyed, must they not share a similar fate? Article two of the General Grand Chapter is devoted to the mode and manner of creating the State Grand Chapters. It is the very law of their being. Abolish it, and the State Grand Chapters must breathe their last. Their author and maker is dead, and as they are dependent in their character and existence, the throes and convulsions of dissolution will be mutual and simultaneous. We will here pause in the investigation of this subject, being satisfied that the wisdom of this Grand Body will point out the path of duty and control our counsels."

Such counsels we are sure will control the action of the General Grand Chapter at its next session, as not only to perpetuate its existence, but more fully prepare it to fulfill its mission, and answer all reasonable expectations of the several Grand Chapters of the Union.

Before leaving this subject, let us examine with some care the ground of complaints which have been urged against the continued existence as well as the past action of this body. We will not now recur to those hasty and harsh assaults of those Grand Chapters which have refused to co-operate in sustaining it, and had thus a motive to censure and condemn. The Chapters owing allegiance to the Central Body have been too ready to take up an evil report and repeat the attacks of enemies, and thus created the necessity for the time and space we have devoted to this question in preceding reports. It is time to settle the questions at issue on this subject.

OBJECTIONS.

1. One of the objections raised is, that the General Grand Chapter is inefficient, and accomplishes nothing for the Order. A specimen of this may be found in the notice taken of the Grand Chapter of Maine in the able report of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, drawn up by Comp. J. D. TAYLOR. Speaking of Maine, the committee say:

"The report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence advocates, in a general summary, the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter and maintains its utility and usefulness. We do not coincide, however, with the committee, that that General Grand Body '*is in its youth*,' and has a healthy and vigorous existence, and that '*by its late action it should commend itself to the approval of those who are reasonable and intelligent masons.*' If we are not much mistaken, this General Grand Body has been in existence more than half a century. We confidently ask, what has it done in this long period to commend itself to the confidence and attachment of its subordinates? To our minds, nothing; and its action, or rather its want of action, at the last communication, evidences rather an approach to vacillating imbecility than bold, manly and vigorous action. In this opinion we are sustained by our Companions of Vermont, who say, through the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—'The looseness of its general legislation for the last seven triennial communications, the uncertainty in which it has left several most important subjects, and its timidity in considering and deciding upon others, are all evidences of an inherent weakness, which, in our opinion, will be hardly overcome by a more perfect union than we now possess, or than, with our present prospects, we are soon likely to accomplish.' We do not think that a more intelligent body of masons could be found than our Companions of Tennessee, and being '*intelligent masons*,' they are no doubt '*reasonable men*.' Yet it seems they cannot approve of the action of the General Grand Chapter, having recently appointed a committee in Grand Chapter to take into consideration the propriety of dissolving their connection with it."

In this extract we have the language and action of three Grand Chapters in relation to the General Grand Chapter, and have a fair specimen of the objections referred to. Let us notice first the exceptions taken to our former statements, that this Body is in its youth and has a healthful and vigorous existence. Our Companions object to this—that it has been in existence half a century. But does half a century complete the infancy of an institution like ours? Does truth grow old and become imbecile in half a century? O! no—

"The eternal years of God are hers."

The General Grand Chapter of these United States is not in its dotage or its "*approach to vacillating imbecility*," unless our beloved institution is about to wax old and vanish away, or our country, which is just verging into the full strength of manhood, is becoming too feeble and sickly to nourish and protect this institution, which is now becoming one of its strong pillars, comprising modern strength and beauty. Grant that the General Grand Chapter is fifty years old: our country is still older, and yet no symptoms of decay in either. Be it remembered that for the last quarter of a century the whole Order of Masonry has till of late been reposing in the dark night which fanaticism prescribed, with the boastful assurance that masonry was not asleep, but dead and buried past resurrection. Let us also remember, too, that since the

assumptions of fanaticism have proved false, and the age and the spirit of progress revealed the blessed truth that our institution "is not dead, but sleepeth," and now that the voice of God and humanity have waked it out of sleep, only two sessions of the General Grand Chapter have occurred; and it was fortunate that, in waking, the General Grand Chapter did not at once assume haughty airs and undertake suddenly to dictate and legislate far in advance of the expressed necessities and demands of its subordinates. For ourselves, one of the hopeful features of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter at its last session was its cautious deference to the opinions of the Grand Chapters of the Union. Nothing, to our minds, could be more decisive evidence of the wisdom of its action, than the freedom and diversity of criticism which it has occasioned in all parts of the country; and we feel the highest confidence that the discussions now in progress in various parts of our Masonic Union will result in the most important session of that Body in September next that has ever yet been held, and that its future history will show that the past has been but its infancy, giving promise of a vigorous youth and a glorious manhood—that is, if we do not grow up too fast. In an age like this, we must learn to "make haste slowly." God and truth and light are always wakeful and progressive, but never in a hurry.

Perhaps this view may also answer the good tempered Companions of the Connecticut committee. In a note to the very able report written by Comp. William Storer, it is playfully asked of us:

"If the General Grand Chapter, at the age of fifty years, is still in the period of its youth, we must be permitted to doubt the rapidity of its advance toward the stature of a man. In ordinary cases, candidates for masonic favor are supposed to come to some degree of maturity, when they are of 'lawful age.' We would respectfully enquire of our learned Companions down east, how long it will probably take the General Grand Chapter, at the rate it has developed its faculties during the last half century, to reach the full maturity of manhood?"

To this we only reply, in the same good temper, its growth and maturity will be rapid in proportion to the real progress and maturity of the Grand Chapters which sustain it and direct in its counsels. Let all the Grand Chapters of the country mature as rapidly as our sister of Connecticut has in the last three years, and bring as much zeal, wisdom and talent to the counsels of the General Grand Chapter, as our Companions in Connecticut do to their own reports, and the Central Body would very soon be "of lawful age and properly avouched for."

It is objected that the General Grand Chapter has *hesitated* and exhibited *timidity* in deciding some important subjects. What is the practical effect of this, but to call out the able and lucid discussions of those questions by all the Grand Chapters of the country, which will thus enable that Body to decide them more wisely and satisfactorily at its next session, and find the Chapters of the country in a far better condition to receive and profit by these decisions? One of the delightful features of the reports of the several

Chapters this year, is the ability and wisdom exhibited in the discussion of those very questions which some of the Chapters complain were not settled by the General Grand Chapter. To our minds, the wisdom of that action is most clearly seen in these results. Her future legislation will be greatly aided by these discussions, and all the Chapters of this country will be benefited by this delay, and the wiser legislation resulting from it. A brighter future dawns on us now, than at any previous period in this department of our order, and we do not despair of seeing all the Grand Chapters of our Union united in sustaining the General Grand Chapter, and aiding its legislation by their counsels and effective energy.

REPRESENTATIVE FUND.

2. Another objection of some force has been the expense of the General Grand Chapter, and the prospect of taxation in order to the support of a representative fund to defray the traveling expenses of delegates from a distance. This objection appears to be less now than two years ago. It seems quite certain that more of the Chapters favor this now than two years ago. It is, however, questionable, whether all would agree as to the justice of taxing each State Grand Chapter the same sum. Ought not the tax to be *per capita*, or in proportion to the number of Subordinate Chapters and affiliated members? This question will deserve careful consideration, and will doubtless be settled correctly at the proper time and place. This Chapter having already spoken in favor of creating such a fund, will doubtless coincide with any just mode of creating it. One circumstance which now seems to favor this view, and facilitate the establishment of such a fund, is the cordial response which the correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maine is now receiving from various quarters, relative to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. The proposition from our State Grand Lodge was, that each of the Grand Lodges of the Union would be represented at Kentucky, next autumn, at the time of the meeting of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, with power to organize a General Grand Lodge, with appropriate powers and limitations.

This seems to meet with more general favor than any other proposition, and several States have taken steps to comply with this arrangement. Let this be done, and let the triennial sessions of the three Bodies occur at the same time and place. It would be easy for distant States to be represented, if necessary, by one delegate in the three bodies, so that the expense would be very trifling, and easily borne by the two or three Bodies he could represent. This arrangement would most happily realize the idea proposed by Comp. Tupper, in the General Grand Chapter. It would secure a convention of delegates representing the several departments of masonry, would require no process of "pulling down" existing fabrics to make way for such a general convention. Let the Grand Lodge be formed as proposed, and the work is

done, far better than by disbanding and creating an anomalous convention, with no responsible head—being neither a Lodge, a Chapter, nor an Encampment. If we mistake not, this plan will be hailed as a consummation devoutly to be wished.

COUNCIL DEGREES.

Your committee see no occasion to recommend any new line of action in relation to the degrees of Royal and Select Master. The discussions on this subject have occupied a large share of attention throughout the country, without much progress being made in the settlement of contested claims of jurisdiction. The subject is somewhat humorously expressed by Comp. LEWIS, of New York, in the Report on Foreign Correspondence. The committee say:

"Twelve Grand Chapters have written upon these degrees, within the last twelve months, and although we cannot say with truth, there are twelve different opinions on the subject, yet we can truly say that Royal Arch Masons are twelve times wider apart than when the matter was first broached. We shall not enter into any further examination of this subject for another twelve month."

This may be regarded a strong expression. Royal Arch Masons are farther apart in their theories in this respect, than in practice. The question of *jurisdiction* is the main thing unsettled. Some believe the jurisdiction is in the Chapters, and confer them accordingly. Others think they belong to the Council, as distinct from the Chapter, and have local and Grand Councils to control them. Others claim that they belong to the Grand Council of the thirty-third degree. Until these questions are settled, your committee see no motive to change their present position, which is, that, in the absence of a State Council, the Chapters have authority to confer them, subsequent to the Royal Arch degree.

PROFANITY—INTEMPERANCE.

It is interesting to notice the advancing tone of moral sentiment, especially in the western and southern Chapters, in relation to profanity and kindred vices.

Michigan says:

"We find some of the Chapters are disciplining their members for wanton profanity. This is right, for we are always reminded of the reverence to that great, holy, and mighty Being."

Mississippi expresses similar views in one of her reports.

Alabama says:

"We, on our part, incline to the opinion that Subordinate Chapters already possess that power [of disciplining members for profanity], as we hold that wanton profanity is clearly unmasonic."

New York approves these views as just and important to be observed.

Several of the Chapters take similar views in regard to the use and sale of intoxicating drinks, regarding the drunkard as a natural result of using intox-

icating liquors, as a drink, and the sale as exactly adapted to produce both the moderate drinker and the drunkard, and this to be at war with the principles of masonry, as with the rights and interests of man. Such sentiments, from our Companions in the States far South and West, remind us that the East is still watched with interest as the source of light, and that the legislation and jurisprudence of Maine, as well as her masonic endeavors, are producing effects far beyond her own limits.

PHYSICAL DEFORMITY.

One of the gravest subjects claiming the attention of both the Grand Chapters and Grand Lodges of the Union is that relating to personal deformity, or the conferring of degrees on those who are maimed in person or limbs. As this question is especially assigned to a select committee of the Grand Lodge we do not propose its discussion here; but will simply add, that masonry sympathizes with human infirmities wherever found, and desires to extend a brother's hand wherever it can be done consistently with the fundamental principles and the genuine spirit of its time-honored landmarks. It is to be hoped the General Grand Chapter will decide this question in a manner just, as well as generous, so that all the departments of the Order will see the wisdom of its decision, and acquiesce in it so far as to give substantial unity of action throughout the country.

EDUCATION.

The subject of education continues to occupy a commanding position in the estimation and action of our Brothers and Companions throughout the South and West. We of New England, with our free schools, our academies and colleges, can hardly appreciate the work which falls upon the hands of our Companions where the general wants of the community summon the masonic institution to create schools and colleges of its own. While we cheer them forward in their noble work, we would remind them of the importance of securing educational facilities for their entire population. It will be hard to train and educate their own sons and daughters thoroughly in the midst of a population ignorant and neglected. Let their philanthropy, therefore, devise liberal things, and seek to elevate every family and educate every child to the responsibility and high calling of American citizens. We would also be stimulated by their zeal to do what may be in our power to elevate and perfect the institutions and educational appliances of our own State, so that we may give them a noble example of fidelity in our sphere as they have given us in theirs.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES.

Among the bright signs of promise in this masonic hemisphere, we may notice with sincere pleasure the increase of public addresses from distinguished

masons from different parts of the country. Some of these are bound up with the several reports, and others come to us in separate pamphlets. Every year brings us a rich treat in this way, from gifted minds, fresh with the inspiring themes which our Order suggests. These vary with the occasions and the local occurrences which call them out, but all are contributing something of deep interest, and worthy a permanent place in the libraries of the fraternity. One of this description, which has recently come to the notice of the committee, exhibits a great deal of research and of genuine talent. It is by Comp. W. S. ROCKWELL, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, delivered before his Grand Lodge. It embraces the origin, nature, usefulness and archæology of Freemasonry. Such addresses must do good, whether delivered in public or read by the members of the Order. It is by such that masonry is to demonstrate its vitality and adaptation to the wants of man.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, your committee express what they believe their Companions all share with them, a lively gratitude for the Providential care which, with unslumbering fidelity, has presided over the destinies of our Order for another year. The general harmony and substantial progress which almost everywhere appear in the department of Royal Arch Masonry, are matters of devout thankfulness. In closing this report, we cordially reciprocate the fraternal greetings of all the Grand Chapters of the Order, desiring a continuation of their favors, and commending them to the sympathies and guidance of our High Priest who has passed into the heavens, and who is touched with the feeling of human infirmities.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,
JOSEPH C. STEVENS, } *Committee.*
JOSEPH COVELL,

On motion, it was

Voted, To pay Comp. PEARL the sum of twenty dollars for his services as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Chapter then closed the Annual Convocation in form.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

By order of the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maine, a Convention of High Priests was holden at Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on Friday, the sixth day of May, 1853, and duly organized by the election of M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH as President, and M. E. THOMAS B. JOHNSTON as Secretary.

PRESENT.

M. E. CHARLES B. SMITH.
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,
" TIMOTHY CHASE,
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,
" OLIVER GERRISH,
" JOHN WILLIAMS,
" STEPHEN WEBBER,
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,
" JOSEPH SMITH.

Applications were received and properly vouched from E. A. CHADWICK, High Priest of Jerusalem Chapter, and S. B. DOCKHAM, High Priest of King Solomon's Chapter, soliciting the Convention to confer upon them severally the order of High Priesthood, with which requests the Convention voted unanimously to comply, and they were severally created High Priests and duly anointed as such.

Voted, That a copy of the proceedings of this Convention be furnished to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Maine, with a request they they be spread upon the records of the Grand Chapter.

The Convention was then dissolved.

Attest: THOS. B. JOHNSTON, *Secretary.*

A true copy of the original paper presented to me for record and publication with the proceedings of this Grand Chapter.

Attest: ALLEN HAINES, *Grand Secretary.*

[From the Records of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.]

The order of High Priesthood has been conferred on the following named Most Excellent High Priests:

Names.	Conferred by
M. E. Charles Fox,*	M. E. Henry Fowle, President, 1820, July.
" Robert P. Dunlap,	
" Nathaniel Coffin,	
" L. Sprague, M. D.,	
" Rev. G. W. Olney,	
" William Pettengill,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1826, July 5th.
" Benjamin D. Bartlett,	
" John H. Ingraham,	
" Arthur Shirley,	M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, President, 1829, January 20th.
" Samuel K. Gilman,	
" Rev. Stephen Lovell,	
" Benjamin S. Deane,	
" John L. Megquier,*	M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, President, 1830, January 20th.
" Amos Nourse,	
" Nelson Racklyft,	M. E. John B. Hammatt, President, 1845, March 21st.
" James C. Churchill,	
" Oliver Gerrish,	
" Freeman Bradford,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1847, February 8th.
" Samuel H. Valentine,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1847, May 4th.
" John C. Humphreys,	
" Abner B. Thompson,	
" Nathan C. Fletcher,	
" J. C. Stevens,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1848, May 2d.
" Alexander H. Putney,	
" Stephen Webber,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1851, February 21st.
" Samuel S. Wing,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1850, April 30th.
" Scott J. Tallman,	
" John Williams,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1850, May 1st.
" Ansel Lennan,	
" John B. Mange,	
" Thomas B. Johnston,	
" W. H. Mills,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1851, June 25th.
" Timothy Chase,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1852, May 7th.
" Lory Bacon,	
" Joseph Smith,	
" Stephen B. Dockham,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1853, May 6th.
" E. A. Chadwick,	

* Deceased.

OFFICERS

OF THE

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

INSTALLED MAY 5, A. L. 5853.

M. E.	TIMOTHY CHASE, Belfast,	Grand High Priest.
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON, Brunswick,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	JOSEPH C. STEVENS, Bangor,	Grand King.
"	STEPHEN WEBBER, Gardiner,	" Scribe.
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, Portland,	" Secretary.
"	THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, Wiscasset,	" Marshal.
Rev. & E.	JAMES PRATT, Portland,	" Chaplain.
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	" "
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	" "
"	WILLIAM WILLIAN, Bangor,	" "
Comp.	WILLIAM KIMBALL, Portland,	" Steward.
"	LORY BACON, Augusta,	" "
"	JOHN J. BELL, Carmel,	" "
"	JOSEPH S. NOYES, Belfast,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	" Sentinel.

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER—PORTLAND.

M. E.	JOSEPH SMITH, ...	High Priest.
E.	R. W. KENNARD, ...	King.
"	JOHN B. COYLE, ...	Scribe.
Comp.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	Treasurer.
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, ...	Secretary.
"	JOHN RUSSELL, JR., ...	Capt. of Host.
"	MOSES DODGE, ...	Prin. Sojourner.

Comp.	Thomas J. Sanborn,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Stevens Smith,	M. of Vail.
"	A. E. Howell,	" "
"	John Dain,	Steward.
"	David G. Plummer,	"
"	Isaac Davis,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 6.

Annual Communication—Third Monday in October. Regular Communication—Third Monday in each month. Chartered in 1805.

MONTGOMERY CHAPTER—Bath.

M. E.	John D. Lincoln,	High Priest.
E.	Richard Greenleaf,	King.
"	Davis Hatch,	Scribe.
Comp.	Robert Bowker,	Treasurer.
"	John Greenleaf,	Secretary.
"	Scott J. Tallman,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Samuel S. Wing,	Capt. of Host.
"	John H. Kimball,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	B. F. Currier,	M. of Vail.
"	D. McAllister,	" "
"	Ward Coburn,	Steward.
"	John Young,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 7.

Annual Communication in August. Regular Communication—Wednesday next preceding full moon. Chartered in 1819.

NEW JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Wiscasset.

M. E.	Thomas B. Johnston,	High Priest.
E.	E. G. Webber,	King.
"	S. N. Bragdon,	Scribe.
Comp.	Erastus Cunningham,	Treasurer.
"	Frederick A. Soule,	Secretary.
"	Daniel K. Kennedy,	Capt. of Host.
"	James Smith,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	E. F. Porter,	Royal Arch Capt.

Comp.	Ezra B. Carr,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	George Wood,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	James M. Knight,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Peasley M. Wells,	Steward.
"	Isaac Chapman,	"
"	Sullivan Wright,	Sentinel.

Number of exaltations the past year, 13.

Annual Communication—January. Regular Communication—Tuesday on or preceding full moon. Chartered in 1820.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Augusta.

M. E.	Edmund A. Chadwick,	High Priest.
E.	Moses Springer,	King.
"	Thomas Clark,	Scribe.
Comp.	C. G. Bachelder,	Treasurer.
"	James H. Patterson,	Secretary.
"	C. W. Whitmore,	Capt. of Host.
"	William Nye,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	M. F. Marble,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	E. Ballard,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Ira Cass,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	D. C. Palmer,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Peter Vigoureaux,	Steward.
"	J. H. Arnold,	"
"	Robert Withee,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 4.

Annual Communication in October. Regular Communication—Thursday on or next preceding full moon. Chartered in 1820.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER—Bangor.

M. E.	William H. Mills,	High Priest.
E.	Jabez True,	King.
"	E. G. Rawson,	Scribe.
Comp.	J. C. Stevens,	Treasurer.
"	George W. Snow,	Secretary.
"	Benjamin S. Dean,	Capt. of Host.
"	Cyrus Brown,	Prin. Sojourner.

Comp.	S. B. Brown,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	B. F. Mudgett,	M. of Vail.
"	Silas Alden,	"
"	Warren L. Alden,	Steward.
"	Gustavus F. Sargent,	"
"	Simeon Everton,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted the past year, 11.

Annual Communication—December 16. Regular Communication—Thursday on or preceding full moon. Chartered in 1829.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER—Belfast.

M. E.	Timothy Chase,	High Priest.
E.	Josiah Farrow,	King.
"	Daniel Howard,	Scribe.
Comp.	N. C. Fletcher,	Treasurer.
"	Oshea Page,	Secretary.
"	William O. Poor,	Capt. of Host.
"	Benjamin Kelly,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Joseph S. Noyes,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Daniel Harraden,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Joseph Dennett,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	William Holt,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	E. C. Keen,	Steward.
"	Joshua Bramhall,	"
"	Ezekiel Burgess,	Sentinel.

Companions exalted during the year, 3.

Annual Communication on Monday succeeding full moon in January. Regular Communication—Thursday on or before the full of the moon. Chartered in 1849.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER—Rockland.

M. E.	S. B. Dockham,	High Priest.
E.	D. M. Mitchell,	King.
"	Ebenezer Cobb,	Scribe.
Comp.	Samuel Libby,	Treasurer.
"	E. H. Cochrain,	Secretary.
"	Joseph Miller,	Capt. of Host.
"	John C. Moody,	Prin. Sojourner.

Comp.	LARKIN SNOW,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	O. P. MITCHELL,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	M. E. THURLO,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	JAMES KALER,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	ASA MESSER,	Steward.
"	ALDEN M. WETHERBEE,	"
"	JOHN ANDERSON,	Sentinel.

Number of exaltations during the year, 6.

Annual Communication on Tuesday succeeding the full moon in January.
Regular Communication—First Thursday after the full moon.

Chartered in 1849.

YORK CHAPTER—No Returns.

ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

1854.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine assembled at Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on Wednesday, May 3, A. L. 5854, A. D. 1854, at seven o'clock P. M.

In the absence of the Grand High Priest, T. CHASE, the Chair was taken by the Deputy Grand High Priest, A. B. THOMPSON.

PRESENT.

M. E.	A. B. THOMPSON, ...	Dep. G. H. Priest.
"	STEPHEN WEBBER, ...	Grand King, *pro tem.*
"	N. C. FLETCHER, ...	" Scribe.
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, ...	" Treasurer.
"	ALLEN HAINES, ...	" Secretary.
"	E. A. CHADWICK, ...	" Marshal, *pro tem.*
Rev. & E.	CYRUS CUMMINGS, .	" Chaplain.
Comp.	JOHN J. BELL, ...	" Steward.
"	ISAAC DAVIS, ...	" Sentinel.

With several Permanent Members and a representation from all the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form by the M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest, and prayer was offered by Rev. and E. Comp. CYRUS CUMMINGS, Grand Chaplain.

On motion of Comp. TRUE,

Voted, To dispense with reading the Journal of Proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, it having been published and distributed to the members.

On motion of Grand Secretary HAINES,

Voted, To instruct the Chair to appoint a Committee on Credentials.

And Comp's FREEMAN BRADFORD, JOHN J. BELL and OCTAVIUS A. MERRILL were appointed.

Grand Secretary HAINES presented the following communications from the M. E. Grand High Priest and M. E. Grand King, which were read and referred to the Committee on the Doings of Grand Officers. Subsequently, in accordance with a report of that committee, they were accepted, and ordered to be published as part of the proceedings at this session of the Grand Chapter:

BELFAST, May 2, 1854.

M. E. AND E. COMPANIONS:

Another year of masonic labor has closed, and you are once more assembled to perform those duties and offices contemplated by our Constitution, and to which we can so often recur with feelings of pleasure and satisfaction.

I have for some time past fondly anticipated the pleasure of your friendly greetings and valuable counsels upon this occasion; but, my Companions, I find myself doomed to disappointment, in consequence of the very feeble state of my health—having been compelled to keep my room most of the time for the past week, which, I trust, and doubt not, will be a satisfactory excuse for my absence from you in your deliberations at this time.

Companions, allow me to congratulate you that the return of this Annual Convocation brings with it the tidings of the almost universal and continued prosperity of our institution throughout the land.

During the past year, I have granted a dispensation to York Chapter, authorizing them to fill vacancies existing in their Chapter caused by death and otherwise.

The Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States took place at Lexington, Kentucky, in September last, agreeably to previous notice. From circumstances beyond my control, I was not able to be present. The deliberations and doings of that Body will be communicated to you through the proper officers.

Nothing farther has transpired during the year requiring any official duties at my hands. Whatever communications may have been received from abroad will be submitted to you through the appropriate committee.

And, Companions, trusting that you may long continue in the enjoyment of the good resulting from your labors, I consign you to the care of the

Supreme Great High Priest, trusting that He will abide with you and watch over you in all your deliberations.

Assuring you of my highest respect and esteem,

I am ever fraternally,

TIMOTHY CHASE.

To the M. E. Grand R. A. Chapter of Maine.

BANGOR, May 2, 1854.

BRO. CHASE:—I regret to say that my engagements are of such a pressing nature at home, as to deprive me of the pleasure of being with you at Portland. I believe this is but the second time, since the resuscitation of masonry, that I have failed to attend the annual meetings; and you may be assured that no trifling cause would now prevent me. I hope, my dear Brother, that you will have a pleasant meeting; and I hope and trust that we may both be present next year. Please have me excused this time, and assure the Companions that it would be very gratifying to my feelings to be with them, if it were consistent with my business.

Believe me, dear Brother, very truly and fraternally yours,

J. C. STEVENS.

Comp. TIMOTHY CHASE, M. E. G. H. P.
of Grand Chapter of State of Maine.

On motion of Grand Secretary HAINES,

Voted, To admit all Royal Arch Masons in regular standing, to witness the proceedings of the Grand Chapter during the convocation.

Comp. BELL, from the Committee on Credentials, presented the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Credentials having attended to the duty assigned them, ask leave to report, that the several Chapters in this jurisdiction are represented as follows, viz:

Mount Vernon Chapter, Portland, by—
Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD, High Priest.
" WILLIAM ALLEN, King.
" THOMAS J. SANBORN, Scribe.

Montgomery Chapter, Brunswick, by—
Comp. JOHN D. LINCOLN, High Priest.
" JOHN GREENLEAF, proxy for King.
" JOHN H. MCLELLAN, proxy for Scribe.

New Jerusalem Chapter, Wiscasset, by—
Comp. THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, proxy for King.

Jerusalem Chapter, Hallowell, by—

Comp. E. A. CHADWICK, High Priest.
" J. D. WARREN, proxy for King.
" F. H. WEYMOUTH, proxy for Scribe.

York Chapter, Saco, by—

Comp. DANIEL B. EMERSON, High Priest.
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, King.
" WILLARD B. BARTLETT, proxy for Scribe.

Mount Moriah Chapter, Bangor, by—

Comp. JABEZ TRUE, proxy for High Priest.
" E. G. RAWSON, King.
" B. F. MUDGETT, proxy for Scribe.

Corinthian Chapter, Belfast, by—

Comp. N. C. FLETCHER, High Priest.
" BENJAMIN KELLY, King.
" DANIEL HOWARD, Scribe.

King Solomon's Chapter, Rockland, by—

Comp. S. B. DOCKHAM, High Priest.
" JOSEPH MILLER, King.
" EBENEZER COBB, proxy for Scribe.

We also find the following named Permanent Members:

Comp. R. P. DUNLAP, P. G. H. P.
" CHARLES B. SMITH, P. G. S.
" OLIVER GERRISH, P. G. H. P.
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, P. G. H. P.
" DANIEL K. KENNEDY, proxy for ERASTUS FOOTE, P. G. S.
" SAMUEL B. BROWN, proxy for JOHN WILLIAMS, P. G. H. P.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. BELL, *for Committee on Credentials.*

The Standing Committees were appointed by the M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest, as follows:

On Grievances and Appeals.—E. Comp's E. G. RAWSON, B. F. MUDGETT and T. J. MURRAY.

On Warrants and Dispensations.—E. Comp's N. C. FLETCHER, E. A. CHADWICK and JABEZ TRUE.

On Returns of Subordinates.—E. Comp's OLIVER GERRISH, THOMAS B. JOHNSTON and O. A. MERRILL.

On Doings of Grand Officers.—E. Comp's HIRAM CHASE, S. B. DOCKHAM and J. J. BELL.

On Foreign Correspondence.—E. Comp's CYRIL PEARL, N. C. FLETCHER, E. G. RAWSON and E. A. CHADWICK.

The following report of the condition of the Charity Fund was presented by Grand Secretary HAINES, and accepted:

Agreeably to Article 5 of the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Charity Fund of this Grand Chapter, I herewith present a statement of said Fund:

The whole amount of the Fund is $517.78, consisting of—

Three shares Casco Bank,	$300.00
Two shares Canal Bank,	200.00
Cash in hands of Grand Treasurer,	17.78
	$517.78

Amount of income from Charity Fund last year was $38.00.

ALLEN HAINES,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

On motion of Grand Secretary HAINES,

Voted, That the Chair be instructed to appoint a committee to consider and report upon the question of admitting proxies for absent officers of this Grand Chapter.

And Comp's R. P. DUNLAP, F. BRADFORD and C. B. SMITH were appointed.

On motion of Comp. TRUE,

Voted, That the Grand Chapter proceed forthwith to the election of Grand Officers.

M. E. General Grand High Priest DUNLAP took the chair.

Comp's C. B. SMITH, JABEZ TRUE and E. A. CHADWICK were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers. After having attended to the duty assigned, the committee reported the names of the Companions who had received a majority of the votes cast for the several offices. The report was accepted, and the Grand Officers declared elected, as follows:

M. E. TIMOTHY CHASE, Belfast, *Grand High Priest.*
" A. B. THOMPSON, Brunswick, *Dep. Grand High Priest.*

M. E.	JOSEPH C. STEVENS, Bangor,	*Grand King.*
"	E. A. CHADWICK, Gardiner,	" *Scribe.*
E.	OLIVER GERRISH, Portland,	" *Treasurer.*
"	IRA BERRY, Portland,	" *Secretary*, in place of Comp. ALLEN HAINES, who declined a re-election.

Proceeded to ballot for a Committee of Finance, and the following Companions were elected, viz:

FREEMAN BRADFORD,
CHARLES B. SMITH,
E. G. RAWSON.

M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest THOMPSON announced the following appointment of Subordinate Officers:

Rev. & E.	EATON SHAW, Portland,	*Grand Chaplain.*
"	B. C. MANSON,	" "
"	CYRUS CUMMINGS, Portland,	" "
"	WILLIAM WILLIAN, Bangor,	" "
"	CYRIL PEARL, Baldwin,	" "
Comp.	THOS. B. JOHNSTON, Wiscasset,	" *Marshal.*
"	MOSES DODGE, Portland,	" *Steward.*
"	J. D. WARREN,	" "
"	JOHN J. BELL, Carmel,	" "
"	JOSEPH S. NOYES, Belfast,	" "
"	ISAAC DAVIS, Portland,	" *Sentinel.*

On motion,

Voted, To proceed to the installation of Grand Officers, elect and appointed.

The Grand Officers were thereupon presented for installation by M. E. Grand Marshal T. B. JOHNSTON, and installed in ample form by M. E. General Grand High Priest R. P. DUNLAP.

Proclamation was then made by the Grand Marshal that the Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, both elected and appointed, were legally installed into their respective chairs.

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter is called off, it be till to-morrow, at two o'clock P. M.

Voted, That the Grand Chapter be now called from labor to refreshment.

THURSDAY, May 4, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor.

M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest THOMPSON in the Chair.

Comp. BRADFORD, from the Committee on Finance, presented the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee of Finance have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer of the Grand R. A. Chapter, and submit the following report:

The Grand Treasurer has received in the aggregate, since the last Annual Convocation, as fees from Subordinate Chapters, two hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-two cents; to which sum there is added the balance of last year's account, viz: $149.20; making, in the whole, the sum of $415.82.

The Grand Treasurer has paid out during the past year, for which he has exhibited the proper vouchers, the sum of $257.15; and there is a balance in his hands of $158.67.

The Grand Treasurer has also carried to the Charity Fund account the sum of $117.78; and he has invested the sum of $100; and there remains a balauce in his hands, on that account, of $17.78.

All which is respectfully submitted,

FREEMAN BRADFORD,
E. G. RAWSON,
C. B. SMITH,
} *Committee.*

Comp. CYRIL PEARL, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented and read the following report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of this convocation.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Your committee, in presenting their fourth report to this Body, are permitted to do so with sincere pleasure. The fraternal greetings which come to us from all quarters of our Masonic Union, are full of interest and of promise, giving increasing evidence of the progress of cherished principles, and a high degree of prosperity in this wide field of masonic labor.

It is gratifying to find these evidences of prosperity in all parts of our country, and to reciprocate the genial sympathies which display the fruits of our cherished principles wherever they have taken root. This Grand Royal Arch Chapter will share with the committee in the pleasure they feel in view of this general prosperity, and the active agency which the several Grand Chapters spontaneously assign to this Body in securing results so desirable

In no part of its labors has the Grand Chapter of Maine been more successful than in its vindication and support of

THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER OF THE UNITED STATES.

In our report of 1851, the committee felt constrained to enter in earnest on this work, at a time when those Grand Chapters which had refused to acknowledge her jurisdiction were encouraged to press their assaults upon her most intensely. At the same time, many of those under her jurisdiction were either faltering in their allegiance or putting the most formidable weapons for her destruction into the hands of her assailants.

Such were the assaults upon the General Grand Chapter, that elements of discord were found among its members, and a definite proposition for its dissolution was submitted to that Body, and through that to its numerous subordinates. To meet this state of things, the committee felt to be a first duty. Impressed by this view, our first report gave a condensed outline of the action of the triennial convention held in Boston in 1850, as a vindication of its necessity and utility, whatever might be its existing defects.

In our reports for the two succeeding years, your committee saw fit to vindicate this Body from the attacks of its assailants, and to criticise somewhat freely the Grand Chapters which persisted in this hostility. We have now the satisfaction of seeing our course sustained and justified, by the recent legislation of the General Grand Chapter, and by the increasing confidence and loyalty of most of the Grand Chapters of the Union. The proceedings of the General Grand Chapter at the last session, held in Lexington, Kentucky, in September, 1853, come to us in a lucid and valuable document of one hundred pages. It brings us the following Register of the Grand and Subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction.

Grand Chapters.

Maine,	Kentucky,	Louisiana,
New Hampshire,	North Carolina,	Missouri,
Vermont,	South Carolina,	Michigan,
Massachusetts,	Georgia,	Arkansas,
Rhode Island,	Alabama,	Wisconsin,
Connecticut,	Tennessee,	Texas,
New York,	Indiana,	Iowa.
Maryland,	Illinois,	
Ohio,	Mississippi,	

Subordinate Chapters.

New Jersey.—Union, No. 1, at Newark.
California.—San Francisco, No. 1, at San Francisco.
Sonora, No. 2, at Sonora.
Sacramento, No. 3, at Sacramento.

The Grand Chapters of Virginia, Florida and Pennsylvania still maintain their independent position; but their active hostility, we trust, has now become essentially disarmed. It is to be hoped the time is not far distant when their intelligent convictions and deliberate choice will enroll them amoog the most useful of the sisterhood that love to greet each other at the triennial family festival.

PENNSYLVANIA.

From Pennsylvania we have no report. We regret this the more, as we have desired to see *what is the precise reason* why our Companions there decline to meet us at the gatherings of the General Grand Chapter.

VIRGINIA.

In our last report, as in those preceding, we encouraged the hope that Virginia would soon join us in supporting the General Grand Chapter. In her report last year she gave us a very able discussion of this question, in the majority and minority reports of a committee appointed to consider the expediency of a union with the General Grand Chapter. The two reports were laid over for action at the Annual Convocation held at Richmond on the 14th December, 1853. The two reports were then taken up, when the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is *not* expedient for the Grand Chapter of Virginia to unite with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, as a constituent member thereof."

While the Grand Chapter of Virginia thus decide adversely to a union with the General Grand Chapter, the Committee of Correspondence, of which our E. Comp. James Evans is Chairman, devote several pages of their report to the more important matters of legislation at the late triennial session of that Body. This respectful treatment of that Body by the author of the minority report, which prevented Virginia from uniting with the General Grand Chapter, is worthy of its distinguished author and of the State he represents. It is a harbinger of the "good time coming," when "the Old Dominion" shall greet her sister States in the *Masonic* as cheerfully as she does in the *Political* Union.

FLORIDA.

The Committee of Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Florida furnish us abundant evidence that our labor with them has not been in vain. It will be remembered that, in each of the three reports it has been our privilege to present, we have devoted a large share of attention to the reports of that Body, and given them ample space to speak for themselves in defence of their position. With equal frankness have we endeavored to show that their position is untenable, and their defences unsound.

We now deem it entirely unnecessary to pursue this effort farther. No better evidence of this is needed than is furnished by their recent report, which has been published since the last meeting of the General Grand Chapter. The caustic, unmasonic language, so apparent in their former reports, has materially disappeared. They appear to have found it necessary to devote some forty-five or fifty pages of their report, to the explanation and defense of their position, and to call to their aid all the countenance they can gather from the hostile criticisms of other Grand Chapters. Still they seem to be fully conscious that they have not made out their case, or produced a satisfactory defense of their position.

This state of the case is very hopeful; especially as our Companions can bring to their aid superior talent and great force of statement and argument. Their failure to carry conviction to others and even to their own minds in such circumstances, is a capital illustration of their defenseless position. We will not call in question the masonic zeal and magnanimity of our Companions in Florida, so far as to doubt that we shall meet them "on the level" at the next Triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter, in the good city of Hartford, Conn., in the year of grace 1856.

Your committee regret that the mistake of our printer, in a single word of the report of 1852, should have wounded our Florida Companions more deeply than was intended. They twice quote and comment on the altered language of your committee which follows:

"It is because we respect her masonic skill and her capacity to fulfill a noble destiny in the sunny South, that her sister in the North-East is encouraged to speak *hard words to her, though they may seem too personal and officious.*"

Now your committee assure their Companions in Florida, and elsewhere, that this "*hard*" word was not in the original manuscript, nor in the heart of its authors. It is entirely the work of the printer or his D—l. The original manuscript was "*kind words*"—just the expression of the feeling which has prompted every line of criticism we have ever penned in relation to what we deemed worthy of censure in the reports of our Masonic Brothers and Companions.

Aside from the failure of the report of our Companions in Florida to justify their position in the premises, it contains noble sentiments, worthy of well trained and long tried men and masons, from whose counsels and labors we confidently expect substantial aid in rearing and adorning our beautiful Masonic Arch, which is to span and compass not only our common country, but our broader humanity.

The documents now before us as the basis of this report, in addition to the above, are those of

Connecticut,	Illinois,	South Carolina,
Vermont,	Wisconsin,	North Carolina,
Ohio,	Indiana,	Arkansas,
Maryland,	Kentucky,	Louisiana.

The healthful moral and masonic spirit pervading these reports gives us the more regret that those of any of the Grand Chapters have failed to reach us. We have no returns from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Missouri, Michigan, Texas and Iowa. Nearly one half of the whole number of Grand Chapters we are thus compelled to pass unnoticed. In Connecticut, as your committee have means of knowing, Royal Arch Masonry is in a prosperous condition, calling into its consecrated temples a valuable collection of materials for rearing the Masonic edifice and sustaining the interests of our Order.

On the 27th of the last month, the Masonic Fraternity of Connecticut united in rearing a fitting monument to the memory of Gen. DAVID WOOSTER, a distinguished mason and Christian patriot, who sacrificed his life for the welfare of his country, in the early struggle for independence. His memory was green and precious without the aid of sculptured stone; but the love and reverence of the present generation seek this expression as a useful lesson for the living. The craftsmen in that old State cherish such memories as precious legacies, to be had in reverence by those who share the blessings flowing from such costly sacrifices for one's country.

VERMONT.

Our Companions in Vermont send us a rich treat, embraced chiefly in the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest PHILIP C. TUCKER. It is a very able document, and the Companions of the Green Mountains judged wisely, in deciding to send fifty copies to the General Grand Chapter for the use of its members at the late Triennial Convocation. Many of its suggestions certainly harmonize with decisions reached by that Body, and doubtless contributed to the happy results of that session.

His suggestions in relation to the preservation of the history of the Grand Chapter are worthy of serious regard. They are as follows:

"Several State Grand Chapters have, within a few years, taken into consideration the propriety of attempting to preserve their own histories in a substantial form. The means of doing so, as to ourselves, are yet, to a considerable extent, within our power. A few years more, and they will be beyond it. The few connecting links with our early story, with individual reminiscences, and original facts and details; in other words, the heads we now see around us already blossomed with time-honored white, which bespeaks the near ripening and the not far distant gathering—the only repositories of everything beyond the baldness of our Record Books—'will be here no more at all forever.' If it be the wish of this Grand Body to perpetuate its annals, to pass down not only to those who are immediately to follow us, but to other times and other generations of our successors, some fair picture of the times in which our fathers and ourselves have lived, and how we have filled our brief days and discharged our pleasant duties under the Royal Arch, the hour for doing so must not be long deferred. Personally, I think such a course would be a credit to this Grand Body, and that those who follow us would be grateful for our efforts to preserve the not uninteresting annals of the early days of Royal Arch Masonry, upon the beautiful descents of our loved and beautiful mountains. These are only suggestions

for your consideration. I cannot but hope that they will find their appropriate response in the minds and hearts of my Companions."

OHIO.

The report from the Grand Chapter of Ohio is ably drawn up by Comp. C. Moore. The subject of preserving the history of each Grand Chapter is well urged by him; and he copies from the committees of New York, Rhode Island and Vermont some excellent thoughts on the same subject.

The question as to the appropriate place and jurisdiction of the Past Master's degree, is ably discussed in this report, and the ground is taken that it ought of right to be transferred from the jurisdiction of the Chapters to that of the Grand Lodge and its subordinates, or to the control of Past Masters. The report closes with resolutions covering both of these topics, as follows:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of one be appointed to collect for preservation everything that may be deemed of importance in the history of Royal Arch Masonry in this State; and that said committee be allowed reasonable access to the archives of this Grand Chapter, to examine and copy such records and papers as he may deem important; and that Royal Arch Masons, in every part of the State, and especially our aged Companions, be respectfully requested to render the committee such assistance in this work as time and opportunity may allow.

"*Resolved*, That a select committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the propriety of requesting the General General Chapter, at its next Triennial Session, to omit the Past Master in its list of constitutional degrees and restore it to the exclusive control of Past Masters or Grand Lodges, and that they make report at the next Annual Session of this Grand Chapter."

MARYLAND.

Our Companions of Maryland give us a fine model of a Report on Correspondence, through the committee, of which Comp. Ezra Williams is Chairman.

The important facts in relation to the several Grand Chapters in correspondence, and the questions discussed by each, are presented in a clear and successful method. The discussion of principles by this Grand Chapter is always able and fraternal, showing a high regard for cherished usages, with due deference to the opinions and usages of others.

A handsome tribute is paid to the Grand Chapter of Maine and the report of the Committee of Correspondence.

The support of Maryland to the General Grand Chapter is able and cordial, yet they regret the action of that Body, in relinquishing jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Master. It is, however, her intention to be strictly loyal and to abide the decision of that Body.

The action of the General Grand Chapter is reported so fully by the committee that the Subordinate Chapters will be well informed on all important questions there decided.

ILLINOIS.

Comp. REYNOLDS, for the Committee in Illinois, gives us an able report, in which he assures us that "Good and substantial men are seeking admission to our mystic rites, and are seeking higher attainments among Royal Arch Masons; and from nearly every Grand Chapter comes like welcome news, gladdening every true masonic heart."

The notice of Maine is very fraternal and complimentary. They say "The Grand Chapter of Maine, having the General Grand High Priest, is of course the 'Grand East' of the General Jurisdiction. And, judging from the candor, intelligence and masonic spirit of our 'Down East' Companions, the term would not be unfitly applied."

They speak of the report of our committee as "a very able and elaborate one," and quote the part of it relating to general education with high commendation.

WISCONSIN.

The Grand Chapter of Wisconsin held its Annual Convocation in February last. The report of the committee is ably drawn up, and is careful to give a favorable exhibition of the action and utility of the General Grand Chapter, as well as of the several State organizations. Their cordial notices of this Grand Chapter display a true loyalty to the General Grand Chapter, to which we have devoted so much attention. Speaking of our previous reports the committee say:

"The General Grand Chapter is sustained, and its continuance advocated with unusual zeal and ability. The objections urged against that Body are considered and answered in a most conclusive manner. We have no doubt but that the Grand Chapter of Maine will felicitate herself highly upon the General Grand Chapter, at its last triennial meeting, having so fully vindicated herself. Maine, we think, will agree with us, that the General Grand Chapter, at its last Triennal Session, has firmly come up to the reasonable expectations of the Fraternity."

Our Companions in Wisconsin need not be assured that Maine shares fully in their gratification, in view of this happy issue of the discussion relative to the General Grand Chapter.

INDIANA.

The Communication of the Grand Chapter of Indiana was held in May last, at Indianapolis. Nineteen Chapters were represented, in what seems to have been a good business meeting. The absence of a report either of Committee on Correspondence or of the Grand Secretary, is a defect to be regretted. Such a mode of giving Subordinate Chapters a view of the progress of our institution seems to be indispensable to healthful prosperity.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Chapter of Kentucky held its convocation near the close of August, and the Committee of Correspondence make some apology for a very

brief report. They speak of having "examined the proceedings of seventeen of the Grand Chapters of the United States, and find many discussions of a trivial character, and those of importance of such a nature, as that the General Grand Chapter of the United States can and ought to settle; and as it will meet in a few days after the meeting of this Grand Chapter we forbear to enter, at this late day, into a discussion of the topics referred to." The remarks of the committee on the importance of statistical returns from all parts of our country, are well worthy of consideration, and are here given.

"The numerical statistics of the order are, perhaps, the best index of its prosperity. Although it must be admitted that members alone are very far from indicating the real strength or excellence of an association for purposes of virtue and benevolence; yet it must be confessed that they do indicate both, to some extent, the present prosperity and future prospects of the Order. The constant increase of the members of the companionship, strongly impresses the mind that the places or Chapters where such constant increase is occurring, are blessed with a zealous and active fidelity to the high principles of the Order, by its members exhibiting in their characters the beauty and excellence of the doctrines and precepts they profess to maintain. On the contrary, Chapters exhibiting only a pond-like, stand-still position in members, or a constant decrease, generally impress us with the idea that the spirit and vitality of the institution is gone. Such Chapters, if lights at all, 'are lights hid under a bushel, and not lights set upon a hill.' The reasons are very obvious. Emblems expressive of great truths are a very successful means of impressing those truths upon the mind and heart; and if used frequently, habituate their contemplation, so that they become engraven upon the whole man. Equally powerful upon the heart of the initiated ought to be, and doubtless is, the frequent efforts to impress great truths and great duties upon the uninitiated, in the very ceremonies which the one is taught and the other teaches. Still more is the heart touched and kindled into a lively joy and intense beneficence, as one assists to add one, and another, and another link, to the grand chain of brotherhood or companionship. Far otherwise will be the effect upon those moving lazily to the gloomy walls of a hall of meeting, to sit mopingly for a short time over 'the dying embers of a love that once was bright,' and to gaze vacantly upon a scene of torpor, where once quick pulses and bright eyes exhibited the activity and fullness of energetic life.

"The above suggestions are made with a view to show the importance of having those statistics carefully compiled: First, Because they are somewhat an index of the state of the Order. Second, Because they point the companionship to the portions of country where it is flourishing, and where it may be decaying, and in need of remedy; and—Third, Because they would serve as a guide-book to the fraternity.

"But it will be perceived that these statistics are very deficient, and the reports of the proceedings of the Grand Chapters present meagre materials out of which to construct full and accurate tables."

The committee give us a model table, presenting on a single page the returns of some fifty subordinates, showing an aggregate of 253 exaltations for the year; a membership of 1,384, including 110 ministers of the gospel; with an aggregate of revenue paid by the subordinates to the Grand Chapter, of $1,178.50.

They also give us two other tables—one of which gives us accurately the name, place and time of meetings, with names of Grand High Priest, King, Scribe and Secretary of *nineteen* Grand Chapters. The other gives us, on half a page, partial returns, embracing the number of subordinates of each Grand

Chapter, number of members, of exaltations, dismissions, admissions, deaths and expulsions.

Sixteen of the nineteen Grand Chapters give an aggregate of 10,832. Thirteen of them report 1,895 exaltations. Twelve of them report 475 dismissions. Fifteen of them return 151 deaths. Twelve of them record 24 expulsions. The returns of all, it will be seen, are incomplete. If the several Grand Chapters of the Union will take this work in hand, and give a tabular view each year, covering all these points, by the next triennial session of the General Grand Chapter we may have complete returns from the whole fraternity, and ample *data* to record our yearly progress, greatly for our advantage. The work thus begun by Virginia, ought to be carried forward by all the Grand Chapters of our Union.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

From South Carolina we have the Book of Constitutions as revised and adopted by the Grand Chapter in November, 1853. We have also, in the same document, constitutional rules and usages now of force in that jurisdiction, together with ancient ceremonies of the Order, annual installation service, charges to the several Grand Officers, consecration of a new Chapter, and Grand Visitation ceremonies.

These forms and documents are drawn up with so much ability, as to cause the more regret that we have not the report of proceedings of that able Grand Chapter at the last meeting.

NORTH CAROLINA.

North Carolina reports twenty-six subordinates, in eleven of which there were eighty exaltations.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, in a brief address, speaks of "the perfect prosperity and peace pervading his jurisdiction," and of having fully discussed various topics of interest the last year, as a reason for the brevity of his address. He well says, "Masonry flourishes not amidst excitement, and it is more with pleasure than regret that I have to report a slow but steady and enduring increase within our jurisdiction."

It is to be regretted that no report emanates from the usual Committee of Correspondence in North Carolina, where this service could be rendered with great ability.

LOUISIANA.

From the Grand Chapter of Louisiana we have two reports; the first dated February, 1853, the other February, 1854. This Chapter is now having a prosperous growth, enjoying the rewards of faithful labor and letting her light shine with increasing brightness. Our Companions in Louisiana pay a

high compliment to sister Grand Chapters, but confine their report chiefly to the action of the General Grand Chapter, which they cordially sustain.

Maine has a good reason for joy in the progress and prosperity of our Order in Louisiana, remote as are our locations. The share it was our privilege to contribute to the discussion of difficulties which a few years since tried the souls of our Brethren and Companions there, prepares us more fully to rejoice in their prosperity.

ARKANSAS.

The report of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas is decidedly the ablest and most valuable which has come to us this year. It has two documents of great power and importance, both from the pen of Comp. ALBERT PIKE. The first is a report of forty-five pages on *Masonic Law and Usage*, which is worthy to be stereotyped and read in all our Grand and Subordinate Chapters. Some intelligent masons would doubtless disagree with a part of the doctrines maintained; but none could fail to admire the vigorous language, earnest and patient research, the clear, strong grasp of first principles, and the entire candor displayed throughout the discussion. It is a high compliment to this report, that on nearly every important point so ably discussed the General Grand Chapter decided in accordance with the positions laid down by this writer. As the action of that Body and the views expressed by this writer were entirely independent of each other, this coincidence may be regarded as a reasonable presumption that both are essentially right.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, though not requiring so much research and so high powers of analysis and argument, is an admirable document. We cannot well deny ourselves the pleasure of copying its generous notice of the Grand Chapter of Maine, especially in relation to our support and defense of the General Grand Chapter:

"MAINE.—Returns from seven Chapters were received at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State in May last. Number of members, 346. All the Chapters were represented.

"Apart from the general evidence they afford of the steady advancement of Royal Arch Masonry in the State, the proceedings of their Grand Chapter offer us nothing of very general interest, except the able and interesting report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. In seven Chapters there had been, during the year, but fifty exaltations. The committee say (in regard to another matter it is true, but the remark applies with singular felicity to the increase of numbers): 'In an age like this, we must learn to "make haste slowly." God and Truth and Light are always wakeful and progressive, but never in a hurry.' The *real* and genuine advance of Royal Arch Masonry in Arkansas would be greatly aided, if progress had been accompanied with more caution in many portions of the jurisdiction.

"The first and principal matter discussed by the Committee of the Grand Chapter of Maine, is the usefulness and the propriety of continuing the existence of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. To the principal objection urged against it—that of timidity and inefficiency—the committee respond, in substance, that it is matter of congratulation that the General Grand Chapter, in dealing with masonic questions, has not assumed the part and tone of a dictator, but has exhibited great deference to the Grand Chap-

ters—the consequence having been renewed discussion of the questions by the Grand Chapters, with great learning and ability, and a great addition to the stock of material for sound judgment by the General Grand Chapter.

"Even if it were admitted that this central Body had acted too feebly and timidly, and so far had been of but little use to Royal Arch Masonry, we should but need to reflect that the General Grand Chapter bears somewhat the same relation to its Subordinates as the General Government of the Union bears to the States. Such a Supreme Power, if not a tyranny and despotism, must, unless where extreme necessity presses it to action, often not only *seem*, but *be* temporizing, dilatory, timid, and too cautiously observant of the opinions of the limited sovereignties under its sway—relying, in almost all cases, upon its moral force, and reluctant to resort to peremptory measures of legislation or even of judicial judgment.

"Yet, behind all this, there is an ample power in reserve, to be put forth when a proper emergency arises. The objection to the General Grand Chapter is not to its *Constitution*, but to its *action*. It is not that it *has* not the power to act and decide, but that it has not *exercised* the power. We may depend upon it that in time *that* objection will disappear. It has never yet been known, so fond are all men of dominion, that any man or body of men was long in possession of power without making an ample use of it.

"It is not proposed radically to change the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, or to substitute any other exclusively Royal Arch, Central or Controlling authority in the place of it if it should be abolished. We are decidedly and strongly of the opinion that no such change, if made, would be for the better; and least of all, a General Convocation of Masonic Delegates, as has been proposed, to exercise a general legislative jurisdiction over *all* Masonic Bodies in the United States. And we are also of the opinion that a central authority, armed with appellate judicial functions and a carefully limited legislative power, is absolutely indispensable to the well-being of Royal Arch Masonry. We think it deeply to be regretted that there is no Grand Lodge of the United States, with at least appellate judicial power—no august tribunal above the several State Grand Lodges, to act as a bond of union, settle disputed questions of jurisprudence, and produce uniformity in the work and efficiency in the action of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges. We think that the General Grand Chapter has been of vast benefit to Royal Arch Masonry, and will continue to be more and more so as it enlarges (as it naturally and necessarily will do) the circle of its operations, and secures to itself the respect and allegiance of the several Grand Chapters. Its *positive* action and decision form but a small portion of its influences upon the craft. And we are equally satisfied that the absence of a Grand Lodge of the United States is, and will always be, seriously injurious to the cause of masonry; not only in what it *does*, but in what it *refrains* from doing, is such a central power of inestimable benefit. Establish the *system*—create the controlling power, and it is an American habit for the *law* to be followed by *obedience*, as cause is followed by effect. The sun, round which the planets revolve, *says* nothing and *does* but little—and yet the most erratic comet is compelled, in the farthest depths of the heavens, to obey the silent but inexorable law which requires it to return in its regular appointed orbit, and again approach the great luminary whose noiseless influences govern its eccentric motion.

"With the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of New York, in February, 1852, we are prepared to say, that 'we may safely grant, *for the sake of the argument* (which is not entirely the fact), what is alleged against it (the General Grand Chapter) by its opponents—that its Constitution is imperfect, its legislation slow and timid, and its acts indecisive and void of the potential mood; but in the kindly feelings which it elicits, and the new and bright hopes for the future which it enkindles in its members who triennially assemble as "one common society or band of brothers," is found a full and satisfactory reply to them all. They gather from the north and the south, the east and the west; and, around a common altar, not only sacrifice local feelings and past prejudices with regard to many points in the Institution, but, by the communion of mind with mind and heart with heart, they

acquire new strength to carry into effect the beneficent purposes of masonry. It would indeed be strange, if the Masonic Institution was the sole exception to that great truth which lies at the foundation of our national as well as social prosperity, and which is briefly but perfectly expressed in the sentiment:

'"One country, one constitution, one destiny."'

"It has been with great truth and force said by a great man, that if the American revolution had given us nothing but the Supreme Court of the United States, that would have well repaid all the blood shed in the struggle for American liberty. The value of that tribunal consists in its power to settle constitutional questions and controversies between States; and yet this high power is rarely exercised. *Latent* power is like latent heat. It is of some positive value *while* latent, as well as when it becomes appreciable in action. Such are all the great, valuable powers of nature. One by one, the General Grand Chapter will dispose of all mooted questions now vexing Royal Arch Masonry; and if it decided but one in ten years, it would be probably all the more valuable. The great thing, after all, is, that it is *there*, ready to avert any great danger and use its vast conservative power in any great crisis. Rarely does it occur to anyone to save his country more than once. Great emergencies are 'few and far between.'

"The subject of the Council degrees is also alluded to by the committee of the Grand Chapter of Maine. As that matter seems to have been referred by this Grand Chapter to a special committee, whose intention it is to consider it, your committee will not advert to it, either in this or any other connection; nor to the mooted questions in regard to the Past Master's degree, and the right of a Chapter to try for unmasonic conduct a Deputy Grand High Priest, being a member of such Chapter, these questions also being under consideration by that special committee.

"The Committte on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Maine approves of the doctrine of the Grand Chapters of Michigan, Mississippi, Alabama and New York, that Chapters have the power, and ought to discipline their members for profanity; and also that of several Chapters, that the use and sale of intoxicating liquors are at war with the principles of masonry, as well as with the rights and interests of man. Your committee concur with them to this extent: that profanity, drunkenness and gambling should be held everywhere to be good ground for the execution of masonic discipline; especially in Royal Arch Masonry, the recipients of which should be careful not to give the profane just occasion to cast reproach upon the order."

ACTION OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

Having in previous reports devoted some time and effort in support of the existence and mission of the General Grand Chapter; having dealt fairly with its past opponents, allowing them to be heard in justification of their course of hostility; and having thus far, in the present one, allowed its friends to speak with some freedom; it is proper, in the conclusion of this, which the writer is admonished may be his last report, to allow this Body to speak for itself. It is needless to remark, that, in view of all the circumstances, its recent legislation has been eminently prompt, intelligent, practical and satisfactory.

1. Maine is again honored by furnishing for the third time its presiding officer, but not more so than is the Grand Chapter itself. Both are honored by this selection.

2. A point of real importance is the thorough revision of its Constitution and Rules of Order. This was done to an extent and with a degree of har-

mony and good temper highly honorable to the principles of the Order, and to the representatives of those principles, drawn together thus from their widely scattered jurisdictions. The effective legislative talent displayed in this revision is of a high order; and the cheerful concurrence in the various and important changes is a noble exhibition of magnanimity. The committee recommend that the amended constitution be published with the minutes of this Grand Chapter.

3. Another important point gained is the provision that prevents crude and ill-digested alterations. Propositions for amendment must hereafter lie over from one session to the next, giving ample time for their examination by the Grand Chapters of the country. This will prevent much waste of time and effort in useless and hasty innovations.

4. The report of the General Grand Chapter has fully demonstrated the capacity of such a Body to assemble and do what needs to be done in a manner worthy of workmen who would "undertake to rebuild the temple."

The report of the General Grand Secretary, Comp. B. B. French, is a thorough business document, placing important matters for legislation in a plain and practical light. His practical talent evidently presented many of the important amendments to the constitution, in a manner well adapted to promote wise and harmonious legislation.

5. Physical Deformity. A happy disposition was made of the vexed question in relation to conferring degrees on men who had lost a limb, or are in any way maimed. The report on this question, from the committee of which Comp. Philip C. Tucker, of Vermont, was chairman, is very able and satisfactory. The conclusion of the able reasonings of this committee are thus happily expressed:

"Your committee, then, * * * have reached the unavoidable conclusion, that *it is competent and masonically lawful for Royal Arch Chapters as well as* Blue Lodges, *to confer the respective degrees of masonry, properly conferable by each, upon all candidates, whose defects of bodily qualifications are not such as to prevent them from conforming literally to what the several degrees respectively require of them.*"

This decision was called in question by different representatives, and various forms of resolutions were proposed and debated. The following resolution was finally adopted:

"*Resolved,* That it is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all the requirements of the degrees."

It will be remembered that this whole discussion in relation to physical deformity which has spread over the country, originated in this State in a remark of Grand Master A. H. Putney, and which was finally in substance incorporated in the revised Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine. It was severely criticised all over the country, both by Grand Lodges and Chapters; and was finally presented to the General Grand Chapter by our late lamented E. Comp. S. J. Tallman, a representative of this Body at the

Triennial Session in Boston, September, 1850; and Comp. TALLMAN was placed on the committee. It will be gratifying to the members of this Body to find that the late decision of the General Grand Chapter fully sustains the position embodied in our Grand Lodge Constitution, and explained in the report of the select committee who were called to discuss the question to that Body last year. We have a right to rejoice in this decision, not merely because it sustains the position which Maine had taken in her report, but also because it sustains both the Ancient Landmarks and the just claims of humanity.

6. ROYAL AND SELECT MASTER'S DEGREES. The discussions in relation to the Royal and Select Master's degrees have finally reached a practical result. It will be remembered that when your committee had occasion to discuss this mooted question, they came to the conclusion that in view of the conflicting claims of jurisdiction over these degrees, it were well to delay any change in relation to them until such conflicting claims could be settled, or the General Grand Chapter should further legislate in relation to them. In accordance with the action of the General Grand Chapter in 1850, the Grand Chapter of Maine assumed a temporary jurisdiction over these degrees; and so far as they have been conferred in Maine it has been by this authority. It will now be seen that the General Grand Chapter has relinquished all authority and jurisdiction over these degrees by adopting the following resolutions, which were submitted, along with an able report of committee, by Comp. J. L. LEWIS, JR.:

"*Resolved*, That this General Grand Chapter and the governing Bodies of Royal Arch Masonry affiliated with, and holding jurisdiction under it, have no rightful jurisdiction or control over the degrees of Royal and Select Master.

"*Resolved*, That this General Grand Chapter will hereafter entertain no question or matter growing out of the government or working of those degrees while in their present position."

The adoption of these resolutions, it will be seen, renders it necessary for this Grand Chapter and its subordinates to cease at once to exercise jurisdiction over those degrees; and for those who have received them to decide whether they will cease to cultivate them, or seek rightful authority and establish Councils with legitimate authority to confer them. It is well known that some of the New England States, as well as those more remote, have already established Grand and Subordinate Councils for conferring these degrees. From either of these, it is presumed, appropriate authority can be derived.

7. COUNCILS OF HIGH PRIESTS—CONSERVATION. The report on this and kindred questions was presented by Comp. ALBERT G. MACKEY, of South Carolina, with the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That it is not within the province or the control of this General Grand Chapter, or of any State Grand Chapter, to define the duties or powers of a Council of High Priests.

"*Resolved*, That while in deference to the long established usages of Royal

Arch Masonry in this country, it is recommended that every newly elected High Priest should, as soon as it is convenient, receive the order of High Priesthood; his anointment as such is not necessary to his installation, or to the full and entire discharge of all his powers and duties as the presiding officer of his Chapter."

These resolutions were adopted.

8. Appeal of Subordinates.—Difficulties in New York. An appeal from Ancient Chapter, No. 1, of the State of New York, which was submitted to the Committee on Grievances, drew out an able report; which, being sustained, decides that a Subordinate Chapter in a State having a Grand Chapter cannot appeal from a decision of the same to the General Grand Chapter, because it cannot exercise jurisdiction within the said State.

The investigation of this question brought to light one of the difficulties which have infested masonry in New York; and drew out the facts of "Orient Chapter," which, it is alleged, "derived its authority from a clandestine mason in that State named Henry C. Atwood," the members of which consisted of persons "acknowledging allegiance to the Body styled St. John's Grand Lodge, which had been pronounced clandestine by all the lodges of the world."

The report censures the Grand Chapter of New York for summarily healing, or rather, by a mere edict, "declaring healed this body of clandestine masons," in an improper manner. The report closes with this emphatic language:

"We will not comment on these irregularities, because they must appear evident to every Companion who shall hear a statement of the facts above detailed; but we cannot refrain from expressing the hope that the Grand Chapter of New York will respect the opinions and feelings of its Companions throughout the United States, who must necessarily censure these proceedings, and atone for the error which it inadvertently committed, by magnanimous acknowledgment and by prompt redress."

The following resolutions were adopted in relation to these troubles in New York:

"*Resolved*, That the appeal of Ancient Chapter, No. 1, be dismissed.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Chapter of New York cause all the Royal Arch Masons made illegally by Orient Chapter to be healed, and that they issue a new warrant to said Chapter, with the recommendation of the nearest Chapter, and the payment of the usual fee."

9. Representative Fund. The proposition to establish a Representative Fund, which was laid over from the previous Triennial Session, and submitted to the consideration of the several State Grand Chapters, was introduced by report of committee, with a resolution proposing to raise the same by a *per capita* tax of ten cents upon each member of Subordinate Chapters, and forwarded through Grand Chapters, one month before the day of the triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter.

The resolution was amended by substituting *twenty* for *ten* cents, and then the resolution was negatived by a vote of 46 to 16.

Your committee do not believe this vote ought to be regarded as final on this question. They regard it as simply deferring a final decision for three

years, for a more mature consideration by the several Grand Chapters. If we mistake not, the great body of the Royal Arch Masons and Chapters of the country will, in less than three years, be so fully satisfied with the existence and utility of that Body, and the wisdom and economy of sustaining it, that they will cheerfully raise, by voluntary taxation, whatever sum may be requisite for its ample support.

10. Uniformity of Work. The effort to secure uniformity in the work has also been defaulted once more. The work on the several degrees was illustrated by Comp. Lovell, of Massachusetts. The effort to adopt a report on work was introduced by Comp. Gould, but was opposed by such able masons as Comp's A. G. Mackey, of South Carolina, and Joseph Foster, of Missouri. A motion was made to strike out the report of Comp. Gould, and insert that of Comp. Mackey, disapproving the same. The motion to strike out was negatived by a vote of 42 to 38. Comp. Gould then moved to lay the whole subject on the table, which was carried by a unanimous vote.

This decision, like that which precedes it, we cannot doubt is wise in view of all the circumstances. It is matter of devout gratitude that so many important points are gained, and that so much harmony and conciliation prevail, where Companions cannot see eye to eye. In one form or another there will be progress in the Grand Chapters of the Union and their subordinates in the work of the Order; they will gain more perfecting knowledge of each other's work. The result will be a nobler workmanship and a loftier charity and magnanimity, which shall secure general approbation and support.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this report your committee have to express the high satisfaction they have felt in watching the progress of Royal Arch Masonry during the last three years. When first called to review the correspondence of the Grand Chapters of our Masonic Union, they were constrained to use the following language:

"It is to be remembered that in the revival of masonry the progress and prosperity of the Chapter must necessarily be subsequent to the prosperity of the lodges, for the good reason that its members must all be versed in the work of the lodge before entering the Chapter. It is manifest that the tide of prosperity is now setting rapidly in this direction, and there is a corresponding necessity for earnest and skillful administration of this department of masonic jurisprudence. This conviction seems to pervade the Grand Chapters whose proceedings have reached us, and yet there does not appear to be evidence that all the departments of labor are yet as well matured and systematized as in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges. This is especially the case in the reports on Foreign Correspondence, which in general it is to be regretted are not full or specific and instructive as it is hoped they will be hereafter. The reason of this, however, is obvious, and has already been referred to. It must be the work of time and experience. In many of the Chapters, as in our own, these committees have but recently been appointed, and they can as yet have had but limited opportunity to explore the rich fields of inquiry which are open before them. In removing the rubbish preparatory to building a second edifice, it would be strange if all the treasures that may lie

buried in the ruins, where vandal hands had demolished a former structure, should be discovered and reclaimed at once; but time and patient research will bring to light rich vestiges and memorials of the past and substantial treasures for future use. Even the General Grand Chapter has failed to give us the example of a Report of Correspondence in the ordinary form; and several of the Grand Chapters show their regret at the failure of such a report in their own communications, by adopting prompt measures for securing this feature hereafter. In the absence of these sources of information in many of the returns we can give only a proximate view of the condition and progress of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States. It should also be observed that of the twenty-two Grand Chapters which recognize the General Grand Chapter, we have returns from only twelve."

This language does not fully express the embarrassment which was then felt, in view of the condition of this branch of our ancient Order at that time. There was then almost an entire want of symmetry and beauty in the walls and workmanship, in various parts of what we desired to call "our beautiful temple." We had been taught, at an early stage of our masonic discipline, to regard "Wisdom, Strength and Beauty" as fundamental and permanent qualities of the workmanship that must pervade this temple. Yet these qualities were in reality, at that time, sadly defaced. It was painful to think so—still more unwelcome to say what truth would manifestly warrant. There was very much to deplore; yet the committee could not feel warranted in using the plainness of speech which the facts would manifestly justify. Such language might fail to reach and relieve the evils we could not fail to deplore.

It was plainly visible that this department of the Order had a most important work to accomplish; and still there were apparently long standing difficulties to overcome, before that work could progress in a manner worthy of "so noble and glorious an undertaking" as that of rebuilding the temple of our fallen humanity, the ruins of which so plainly showed the ruthless touch of vandal hands and impious hearts, whose every utterance had been, "Raze it—raze it, even to the foundations thereof." It had been the boast of our enemies, not merely that one stone was not left upon another in its walls, but that they had driven the ploughshare of ruin through its very foundation. They had not merely demolished the beautiful temple which the fathers had reared; but, in their wild frenzy, claimed to have defaced and ruined its polished stones, destroyed every vestige of fitness and proportion in its glorious arch, and buried the key-stone where no human patience and endurance could give it resurrection—having first so mutilated it that they believed no masonic scholarship could ever decipher its inscriptions, if its fragments could be found among the buried rubbish. Such had been the insulting exultation of our enemies for nearly a quarter of a century. But this was not the sorest trouble. The most intense aspirations which pressed upon us, when first called to review the ruins of the temple, was graphically expressed in that trite exclamation, "Save us from our friends—we will take care of our enemies."

Many who had joyfully labored in the days of prosperity had faltered in

the hour of adversity, and for years had despaired of ever beholding the temple rebuilt in such perfection as to change their grief and tears to shouts of exultation. Numbers of those who were once skillful Masters of the Vails had come to need that one should teach them again their first lessons; and some of the Sentinels were either asleep at their posts, or were defectively guarding the door of the Sanctuary. There was a want of skill among the workmen; and yet far too many of them desired to be *High Priests* or *Grand Masters*, and each aspirant must needs have all instructions conform to his standard. The designs must all be copied from his Trestle-board. Hence the great difficulty in securing uniformy of work. Then there was a broad valley between the old and the young members of the Order. They were almost a quarter of a century apart; and in that time had come up the age of steam and railroads, with varied improvements that the fathers had not dreamed of when they built the former temple. The genius of "Young America" must of necessity come, with the "spirit of the age," to the door of the temple, and even to the "Sanctum Sanctorum," and add the modern improvements and embellishments to the skill of the ancient architects. Was it strange, then, that the "ancient landmarks" should be endangered, as the swelling tide of workmen began to crowd the outer courts of our sacred Sanctuary? No: rather let us wonder that the Vails have not been rent, and even the Ark of the Covenant superseded by a modern carpet-bag; and especially when we remember the difficulty of maintaining parental authority in the households of modern days. We may not soon forget the trials of our ancient venerable mother, the General Grand Chapter of the United States. She had just had a family gathering the autumn before we had occasion to write the first report. Several members of the family had refused to come, and made up all sorts of faces at her for daring to invite them. They claimed that she was no mother at all, and only a poor apology for a step-mother; and even at that, she stepped so unskillfully and ungraecfully, that some of those who attended her levee, could do little else than find fault with it for a whole year.

We are now permitted to witness a most happy change in the condition and prospects of the several Grand Chapters, and in their relations to their common head. A noble destiny, as we have seen, is unfolding in our country for Royal Arch Masonry; and we are summoned, with grateful feelings for past favors, to gird ourselves anew for the blessed work which God and humanity require at our hands. We will hope that the pillar of cloud by day, and of fire by night, will guide us till every peril is past and we rest in the promised land where living fires evermore burn on the altars beneath a perfect arch—where our Great High Priest does evermore preside.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,
CYRUS CUMMINGS, } *Committee.*
JOSEPH COVELL,

Comp. OLIVER GERRISH, from the Committees on Returns of Subordinates, presented the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned, and find that the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter have made returns of their doings the past year, and paid their dues to the Grand Treasurer, as per schedule annexed.

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVER GERRISH,
THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, } *Committee.*
O. A. MERRILL,

	Members.	Exaltations.	Dues.
Mount Vernon R. A. Chapter,	135	21	52.05
Montgomery R. A. Chapter,	41	6	21.00
New Jerusalem R. A. Chapter,	34	16	41.00
Jerusalem R. A. Chapter,	52	14	33.53
York R. A. Chapter,	29	14	39.95
Mount Moriah R. A. Chapter,	39	15	40.30
Corinthian R. A. Chapter,	32	5	17.79
King Solomon's R. A. Chapter,	38	6	21.00
	400	97	$266.62

M. E. Comp. R. P. DUNLAP, from the committee appointed to consider the subject of admitting proxies for absent officers, made a verbal report, that officers of the Grand Chapter are not entitled to a representation by proxy at its convocations; but that they acquire that right on ceasing to be officers and becoming Permanent Members. Which report was accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of thirty dollars be allowed and paid out of the Treasury to Comp. CYRIL PEARL for his services as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion of Comp. C. PEARL,

Voted, That the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States be printed with the proceedings of this convocation; and that the Grand Secretary be instructed accordingly.

On motion of the same,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to transmit two copies of the proceedings of this convocation, when published, to each of the several Grand Royal Arch Chapters in the United States, and to each of the officers

of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States; and that, to insure, as far as may be, their safe transmission and reception, the two copies be mailed separately, and on different days.

Voted, To close this convocation without day.

And the Grand Chapter was formally closed, and proclamation made accordingly.

Attest: IRA BERRY, *Grand Secretary.*

NOTE.

ALABAMA. Since our Convocation, the minutes of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Alabama have come to hand. They are published in a pamphlet of thirty-six pages, which contains also the proceedings of the Grand Council of that State, and the revised Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

The Grand Chapter assembled at Montgomery, on the 6th of December, 1853. Forty-four of the fifty-six Subordinate Chapters reported as under jurisdiction of that Grand Chapter were represented at the convocation. The contributions from subordinates amounted to $587.00. Fourteen deaths, three expulsions and five suspensions are reported. No report of the number of exaltations, or of members.

There is no Report on Foreign Correspondence, but a committee on that subject was appointed at this convocation.

The following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved,* That one thousand copies of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, arranged to conform with that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, be published, together with that of the General Grand Chapter, and that the Grand Secretary furnish the Subordinate Chapters with copies of the same."

Another resolution passed at this session, was:

"That the sum of three hundred dollars be donated by this Grand Chapter to the Subnrdinate Chapter at Mobile, to be by them appropriated to the relief of indigent widows and orphans of Companions left on their hands by the late dreadful epidemic."

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters assembled at Montgomery, December 8. Seventeen Subordinate Councils were represented.

[From the Records of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.]

The order of High Priesthood has been conferred on the following named Most Excellent High Priests :

Names.	Conferred by
M. E. Charles Fox,* " Robert P. Dunlap, " Nathaniel Coffin, " L. Sprague, M. D., " Rev. G. W. Olney,	M. E. Henry Fowle, President, 1820, July.
" William Pettengill, " Benjamin D. Bartlett, " John H. Ingraham,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1826, July 5th.
" Arthur Shirley, " Samuel K. Gilman, " Rev. Stephen Lovell, " Benjamin S. Deane,	M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, President, 1829, January 20th.
" John L. Megquier,* " Amos Nourse,	M. E. Nathaniel Coffin, President, 1830, January 20th.
" Nelson Racklyft, " James C. Churchill, " Oliver Gerrish,	M. E. John B. Hammatt, President, 1845, March 21st.
" Freeman Bradford,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1847, February 8th.
" Samuel H. Valentine, " John C. Humphreys, " Abner B. Thompson, " Nathan C. Fletcher,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1847, May 4th.
" J. C. Stevens, " Alexander H. Putney,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1848, May 2d.
" Samuel S. Wing, " Scott J. Tallman,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1850, April 30th.
" John Williams, " Ansel Lennan, " John B. Mange, " Thomas B. Johnston,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1850, May 1st.
" Stephen Webber,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1851, February 21st.
" W. H. Mills,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1851, June 25th.
" Timothy Chase, " Lory Bacon, " Joseph Smith,	M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, President, 1852, May 7th.
" Stephen B. Dockham, " E. A. Chadwick,	M. E. Charles B. Smith, President, 1853, May 6th.

* Deceased.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M. E.	Charles Fox,*	P. G. H. P.
"	Robert P. Dunlap, Brunswick,	"
"	Nathaniel Coffin, Illinois,	"
"	John L. Megquier,	"
"	William Swan, Portland,*	"
"	Oliver Gerrish, Portland,	"
"	David Burbank, Baltimore,	"
"	James C. Churchill, Portland,	"
"	Freeman Bradford, Portland,	"
"	John C. Humphreys, Brunswick,	"
"	John Williams, Bangor,	"
"	Samuel Fessenden, Portland,	P. D. G. H. P.
"	James L. Child, Augusta,	"
"	Amos Nourse, Bath,	"
"	Joseph Chandler, Augusta,	"
"	Joseph M. Gerrish, Portland,	"
"	Charles Chase, Baltimore,	"
"	Thomas S. Bowles, Bath,	"
"	Lawr. Sprague, U. S. A.,	P. G. K.
"	Peleg Sprague, Boston,	"
"	Horace Seaver, Boston,	"
"	Samuel K. Gilman, Hallowell,	"
"	William D. Williamson,	"
"	Jesse Robinson, Hallowell,	"
"	Seth Bird, Portland,	"
"	John P. Boyd, Portland,	"
"	Nelson Racklyft, Portland,	"
"	Erastus Foote, Wiscasset,	P. G. S.
"	Charles B. Smith, Portland,	"
"	Silas Stearns,	"
"	John H. Sheppard, Boston,	"
"	Isaac Gage,	"
"	Oliver B. Dorrance, Portland,	"
"	Zina Hyde, Bath,	"
"	Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, Brooklyn, N. Y.	

* Deceased.

OFFICERS

OF THE

GRAND R. A. CHAPTER OF MAINE,

INSTALLED MAY 3, 1854.

M. E.	Timothy Chase, Belfast,	Grand High Priest.
"	Abner B. Thompson, Brunswick,	Dep. Grand High Priest.
"	Joseph C. Stevens, Bangor,	Grand King.
"	Edmund A. Chadwick, Gardiner,	" Scribe.
E.	Oliver Gerrish, Portland,	" Treasurer.
"	Ira Berry, Portland,	" Secretary.
"	Thomas B. Johnston, Wiscasset,	" Marshal.
Rev. & E.	Eaton Shaw, Portland,	" Chaplain.
"	B. C. Manson,	" "
"	Cyrus Cummings, Portland,	" "
"	William Willian, Bangor,	" "
"	Cyril Pearl,	" "
Comp.	Moses Dodge, Portland,	" Steward.
"	J. D. Warren, Gardiner,	" "
"	John J. Bell, Carmel,	" "
"	Joseph S. Noyes, Belfast,	" "
"	Isaac Davis, Portland,	" Sentinel.

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

MOUNT VERNON CHAPTER—Portland.

Chartered in 1805.

M. E.	Freeman Bradford,	High Priest.
E.	William Allen,	King.
"	Thomas J. Sanborn,	Scribe.
Comp.	Oliver Gerrish,	Treasurer.
"	Cyrus Cummings,	Secretary.
"	William Andrews,	Capt. of Host.
"	Stevens Smith,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	James R. Milliken,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Charles Fobes,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	David G. Plummer,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Amos E. Howell,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	John Dain,	Steward.
"	Jonathan Swett,	"
"	Isaac Davis,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication—Third Monday in October. Regular Communication—Third Monday in each month.

MONTGOMERY CHAPTER—Brunswick.

Chartered in 1819.

M. E.	John D. Lincoln,	High Priest.
E.	Richard Greenleaf,	King.
"	Davis Hatch,	Scribe.
Comp.	Robert Bowker,	Treasurer.
"	John Greenleaf,	Secretary.
"	A. B. Thompson,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	S. S. Wing,	Capt. of Host.
"	John H. Kimball,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	T. S. McLellan,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	B. T. Currier,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	D. McAllister,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	John Young,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication—Third Wednesday in August. Regular Communication—Wednesday next preceding full moon.

NEW JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Wiscasset.

Chartered in 1820.

M. E.	Henry Clark,	High Priest.
E.	L. Wilson Bragdon,	King.
"	James Smith,	Scribe.
Comp.	Ezra B. Carr,	Treasurer.
"	James Taylor,	Secretary.
"	Ezra B. French,	Capt. of Host.
"	Calvin R. Harraden,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	William H. Bragdon,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	George H. Wood,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Andrew Lacy,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	James Clark,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Daniel K. Kennedy,	Steward.
"	Thomas B. Johnston,	"
"	Job L. White,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication at the Regular Communication in December. Regular Communication—Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER—Hallowell.

Chartered in 1820.

M. E.	E. A. Chadwick,	High Priest.
E.	Stephen Lord,	King.
"	C. W. Whitmore,	Scribe.
Comp.	C. G. Bachelder,	Treasurer.
"	James H. Patterson,	Secretary.
"	M. F. Marble,	Capt. of Host.
"	William Nye,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	D. C. Palmer,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	E. J. Smith,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	H. Fuller,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	F. H. Weymouth,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	S. Stoddard,	Steward.
"	Ira Cass,	"
"	John F. Childs,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication at the Regular Communication in October. Regular Communication—Thursday on or preceding full moon.

YORK CHAPTER—Saco.

Chartered in 1828.

M. E.	Daniel B. Emerson,	High Priest.
E.	Timothy J. Murray,	King.
"	Nathan Leonard,	Scribe.
Comp.	Jacob Marston,	Treasurer.
"	Edward P. Burnham,	Secretary.
"	Perez Hill,	Capt. of Host.
"	Frederick D. Edgerly,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Willard B. Bartlett,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Elijah Smith,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Isaac Downing,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Lewis B. Weeks,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Luther Sampson,	Steward.
"	Nathaniel T. Moulton,	"
"	Arthur Caverno,	Chaplain.
"	Leander Bryant,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication—Second Wednesday in April. Regular Communication—Second Wednesday in each month.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER—Bangor.

Chartered in 1829.

M. E.	William H. Mills,	High Priest.
E.	E. G. Rawson,	King.
"	Alpheus Lyon,	Scribe.
Comp.	Joseph C. Stevens,	Treasurer.
"	George W. Snow,	Secretary.
"	Benjamin F. Mudgett,	Capt. of Host.
"	Jeremiah Fenno,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	Samuel B. Brown,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Gustavus F. Sargent,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Warren L. Alden,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Ira Wallace,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Simeon Everton,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication on the 10th day of December. Regular Communication—Thursday on or preceding full moon.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER—Belfast.

Chartered in 1849.

M. E.	N. C. Fletcher,	High Priest.
E.	Benjamin Kelley,	King.
"	Daniel Howard,	Scribe.
Comp.	Timothy Chase,	Treasurer.
"	Oshea Page,	Secretary.
"	William O. Pooh,	Capt. of Host.
"	Joseph S. Noyes,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	E. C. Keen,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	Ansel Lennan,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	Joseph Dennett,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	Timothy Thompson,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	Joshua Bramhall,	Steward.
"	T. R. Shute,	"
"	Ezekiel Burgess,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication on Monday succeeding full moon in January. Regular Communication—Thursday on or preceding full moon.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER—Rockland.

Chartered in 1849.

M. E.	Stephen B. Dockham,	High Priest.
E.	Joseph Miller,	King.
"	William L Pitts,	Scribe.
Comp.	Samuel Libby,	Treasurer.
"	E. H. Cochran,	Secretary.
"	John C. Moody,	Capt. of Host.
"	Russell Glover,	Prin. Sojourner.
"	David T. Boynton,	Royal Arch Capt.
"	O. P. Mitchell,	M. of 3d Vail.
"	D. T. Boynton,	M. of 2d Vail.
"	James Kaler,	M. of 1st Vail.
"	John Anderson,	Sentinel.

Annual Communication at the Regular Communication in January. Regular Communication—Thursday after full moon.